

Welcome to Tokyo!

When the President selects their team to represent the U.S. in an international baseball game, Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and the rest of your favorite Peanuts characters pack their bags for a trip to Tokyo! But between the sightseeing trip to Mt. Fuji, checking out the cherry blossoms, and an impromptu Snoopy sumo match, team manager Charlie Brown has a baseball game to worry about, and it's got his stomach tied up in knots. Can Peppermint Patty give this bumbling team the spark it needs to pull off a win?

Find out in this wonderful new original graphic novel, brought to you by the team behind HAPPINESS IS A WARM BLANKET, CHARLIE BROWN.

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"...a healthy mix of old and new...adheres to the spirit of Schulz's work."

— COMIC BOOK RESOURCES

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— IGN

"Will appeal to everyone who remembers the antics of Charlie Brown and his friends."

— Wired

PEANUTS It's Tokyo, Charlie Brown!

Charles M. Schulz

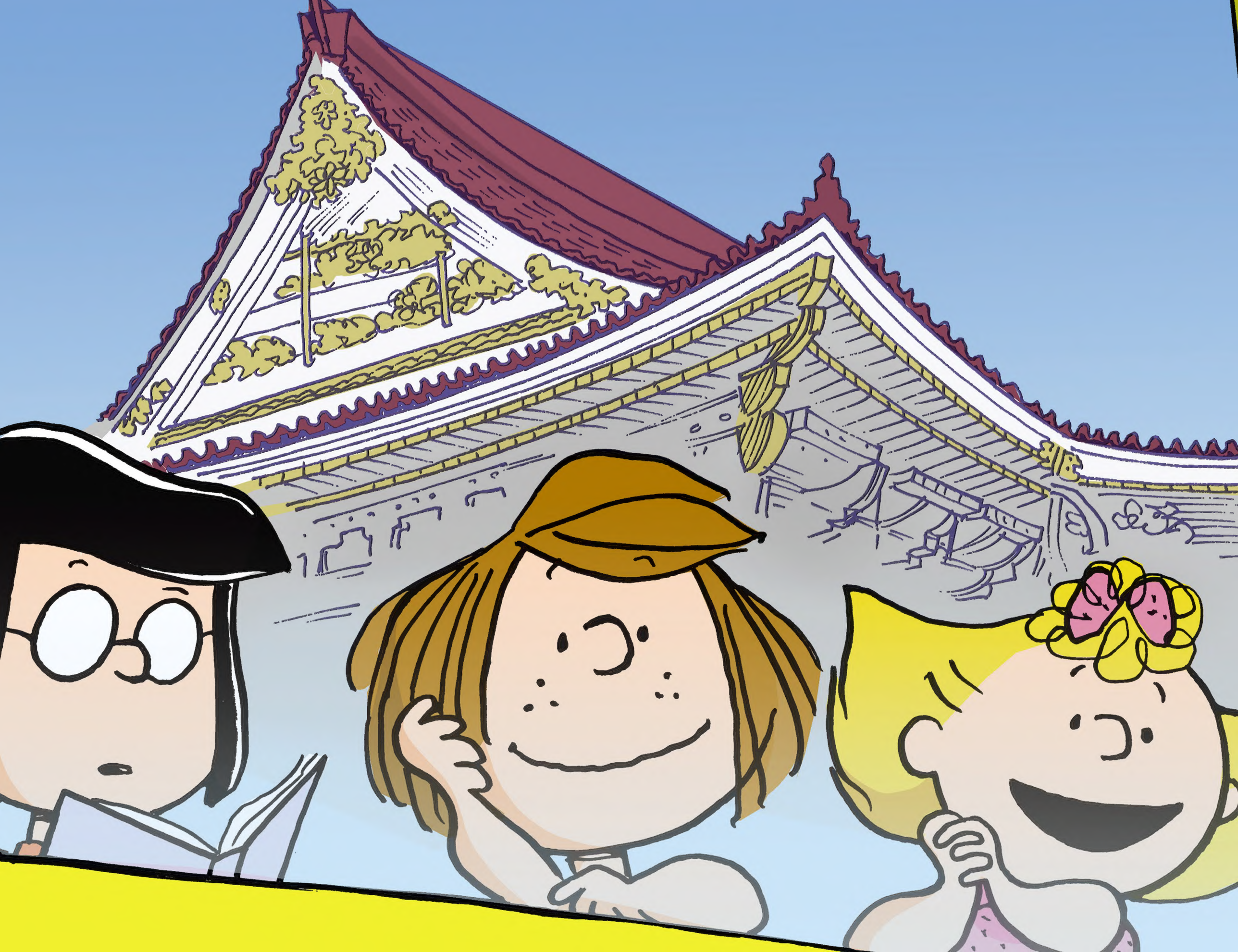
kaboom!

Charles M. Schulz

PEANUTS™

IT'S TOKYO, CHARLIE BROWN!





JAPAN FACTS

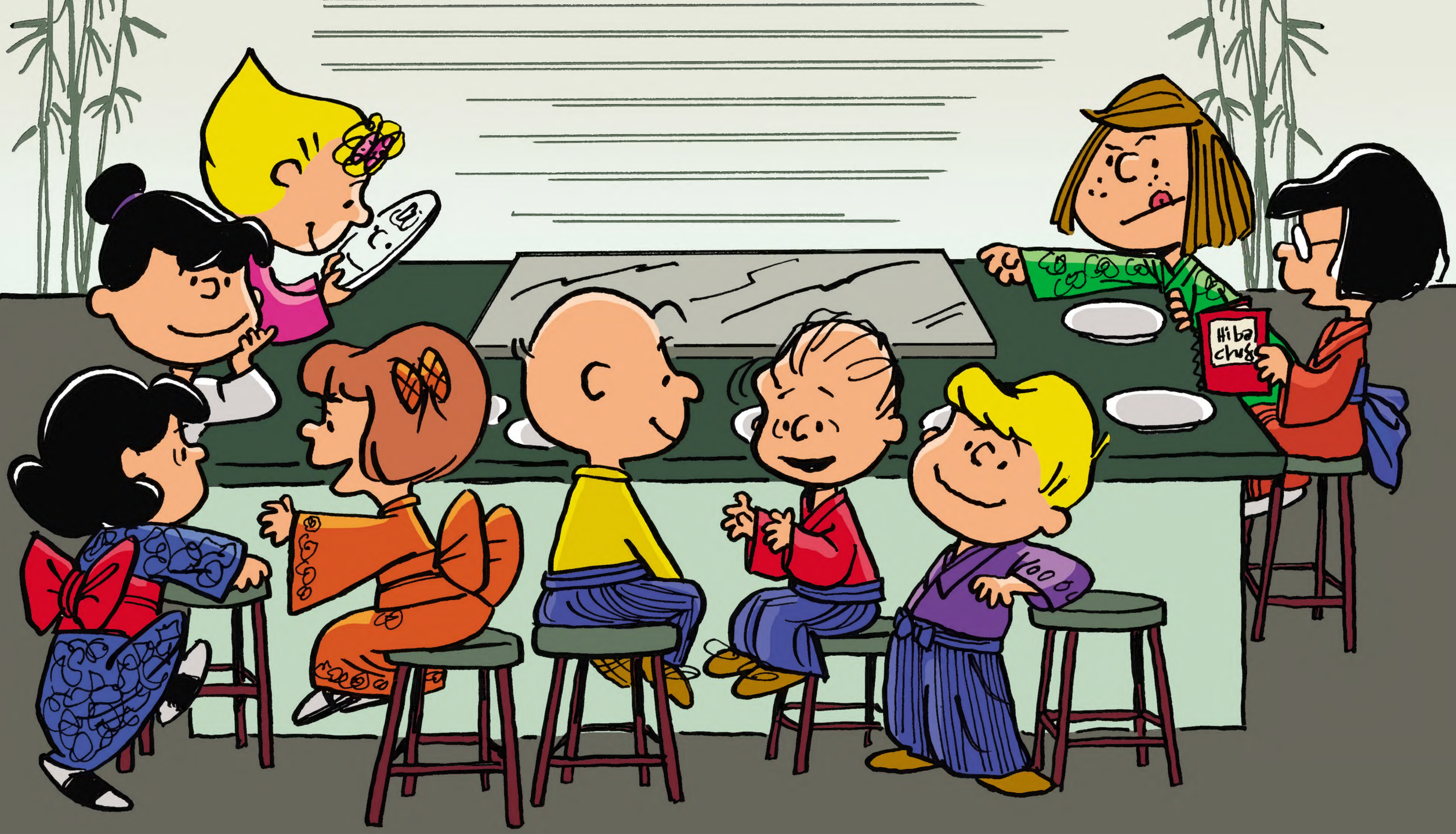
IT'S SO FANCY!

Charles M. Schulz

PEANUTS

IT'S TOKYO, CHARLIE BROWN!





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IT'S TOKYO, Charlie Brown

POW

178

IF YOU CAN GET THIS LAST KID OUT, WE'LL **WIN** THE GAME, CHARLIE BROWN.

THEREFORE, I THINK YOU SHOULD THROW HIM A **CURVE.**

NO, DON'T DO THAT! THROW HIM A **DROP!**

HOW ABOUT A **KNUCKLE-BALL?**

GIVE HIM THE OL' HIGH, **HARD** ONE!

CAN YOU THROW AN **UP-SHOT?**

OR A **SLIDER?**

HOW ABOUT A **SLOW-BALL?**

WHATEVER YOU THROW JUST **STRIKE HIM OUT,** CHARLIE BROWN!

HE'LL **NEVER** DO IT.

IF HE DOESN'T, I SAY WE **KICK HIM!**

EITHER THIS GUY GETS A HIT AND **THEY** WIN, OR I STRIKE HIM OUT AND **WE** WIN...

EITHER **HE'S** THE HERO, OR **I'M** THE HERO.

THIS IS **IT!** IT'S **HIM** OR **ME!**

CRACK!

SIGH

IT'S HIM.

A HOME RUN!

GOOD GRIEF.

THUS ENDETH THE **BALLGAME.**

THUS ENDETH THE **SEASON.**

YOU COULDN'T DO IT, EH, CHARLIE BROWN? YOU COULDN'T JUST GET **ONE MORE** MAN OUT!

YOU HAD TO LET HIM HIT A **HOME RUN** AND **WIN** THE GAME! BOY, WHAT A PITCHER WE'VE GOT! WHAT A **LOUSY** PITCHER!

WHOEVER TOLD YOU THAT YOU COULD PLAY BASEBALL? YOU'RE THE WORLD'S **WORST!** YOU'RE **USELESS!** YOU'RE **TERRIBLE!**

SAY, IT'S GETTING LATE! MY MOTHER WILL BE EXPECTING ME!

DON'T WORRY, I'VE STILL GOT SOME TIME. I CAN TAKE OVER.

WHOEVER TOLD YOU THAT YOU COULD PLAY BASEBALL? YOU'RE NO GOOD FOR **ANYTHING!** YOU'RE **WORSE** THAN **WORTHLESS!** YOU'RE **WORSE** THAN **TERRIBLE!** YOU'RE...

WELL, THAT'S THE END OF ANOTHER **MISERABLE** SEASON. TWENTY GAMES LOST AND **NO** GAMES WON!

OUR OPPONENTS SCORED THREE-THOUSAND AND FORTY RUNS TO OUR **SIX**...THEY MADE FORTY-NINE HUNDRED HITS TO OUR **ELEVEN** AND THEY MADE NINETEEN ERRORS TO OUR **THREE HUNDRED.**

WAIT...DIDN'T WE WIN ONE GAME BY **FORFEIT?**

NO, THE OTHER TEAM FINALLY SHOWED UP, REMEMBER?

OH, YES...I REMEMBER. WHAT A **DIRTY TRICK!**

I'M GLAD BASEBALL SEASON IS FINALLY OVER FOR US!

I DON'T EVEN WANT TO **HEAR** THE WORD "BASEBALL" ANYMORE. I THINK IF I HEAR THE WORD "BASEBALL" AGAIN, I'LL **SCREAM!**

BASEBALL.

AAUGH!

LATER...

WHAT'S THIS? A LETTER FOR **ME?!**

FROM THE **PRESIDENT** OF THE **UNITED STATES!?**

---ABOUT **BASEBALL?!**

AAUGH!

LINUS! LUCY! WAIT 'TIL YOU HEAR **THIS!**

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS SELECTED **OUR** BALL TEAM TO BE PART OF "THE YOUNG AMBASSADORS PROGRAM." **WE'VE** BEEN CHOSEN TO PLAY AN EXHIBITION GAME IN **TOKYO, JAPAN!** WE'RE GOING TO REPRESENT THE **WHOLE** NATION! THE PRESIDENT PICKED **US!**

GIVE ME THAT, YOU BLOCKHEAD. YOU MUST BE READING IT **WRONG!**

HMM...

IT DOES LOOK **OFFICIAL.**

THERE'S A **WATERMARK** AND EVERYTHING...

DO YOU THINK IT'S **TRUE?**

IT'S **GOT** TO BE TRUE. IT'S SIGNED BY THE **PRESIDENT!**

YEAH! WE'RE GOING TO JAPAN!!

HEY, EVERYONE!

GATHER 'ROUND! I'VE GOT **BIG NEWS!**

LOOK AT THIS! THE **PRESIDENT** SENT US A LETTER!

WE'RE GOING TO **JAPAN!**

HOORAY!

WE'RE GOING TO JA--

KLUNK

IMAGINE! **ME,** CHARLIE BROWN, PLAYING BASEBALL IN **TOKYO!**


WHAT IF IT'S ALL A DREAM?
PINCH
OUCH!
IN ONE SHORT WEEK, I'LL BE IN TOKYO PLAYING BASEBALL! I'M SO EXCITED!
I'M TOO EXCITED TO SLEEP!
THIS IS GOING TO BE THE LONGEST WEEK OF MY LIFE.

RING!

HELLO?

HEY, CHUCK! WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT YOU TAKING YOUR TEAM TO PLAY BALL IN **ITALY?**

WE'RE GOING TO TOKYO. IT'S IN **JAPAN.**

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR **LINEUP** TOGETHER YET? BETWEEN YOU AND ME YOUR ROSTER SEEMS PRETTY **LIGHT.** ALL YOU'VE GOT GOING FOR YOU IS THAT FUNNY-LOOKING KID AT **SHORTSTOP.**

WELL, I GUESS...

GREAT! THEN IT'S SETTLED!

MARCIE AND I WILL **JOIN** YOUR TEAM! NOT PERMANENTLY, OF COURSE, JUST FOR THE **BIG GAME.** WE'LL GIVE YOU A TASTE OF **WINNING,** EH, CHUCK? **ITALY** HERE WE COME!

JAPAN. THE GAME IS IN JAPAN.

YOU'RE A PAL, CHUCK!

click!

BOY! WITH PEPPERMINT PATTY ON THE TEAM WE'RE **SURE** TO **WIN!**

GOOD GRIEF! PATTY'S A **RINGER!!** THAT MIGHT NOT BE **ETHICAL...**

BEING A LITTLE LEAGUE MANAGER IS FROUGHT WITH **DILEMMAS.**

I'M EXCITED ABOUT OUR GAME IN TOKYO. IT'S A **BIG HONOR** TO BE PICKED FOR **THE YOUNG AMBASSADORS PROGRAM!**

I WONDER, CHARLIE BROWN... WHY DID THE PRESIDENT PICK **OUR** TEAM FOR THIS GAME?

JUST THINK--WE MIGHT EVEN **WIN!** THE PRESIDENT WOULDN'T HAVE PICKED US IF HE DIDN'T THINK WE COULD.

OUT OF THIS **ENTIRE** NATION, HOW DID HE PICK OUR LITTLE TEAM?

THIS COULD BE OUR BEST GAME **EVER!**

WE'VE **NEVER** WON A GAME.. OUR OUTFIELDER HITS THE OTHER PLAYERS MORE THAN THE BASEBALL AND OUR SHORTSTOP IS A **DOG!** WHY **US** CHARLIE BROWN?

I TRY TO AVOID ASKING QUESTIONS LIKE THAT.

HELLO, CHARLES...WHAT ARE YOU PACKING FOR THE TRIP?

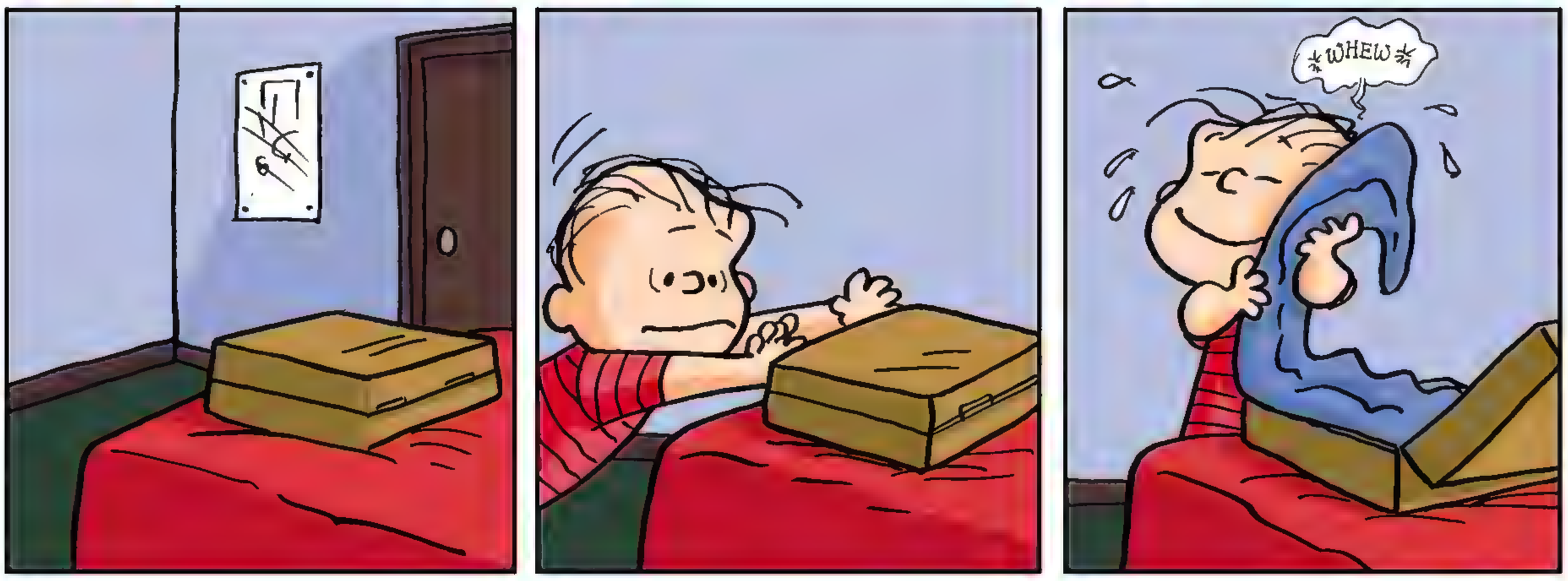
THE **PRESS** WILL BE EVERYWHERE...

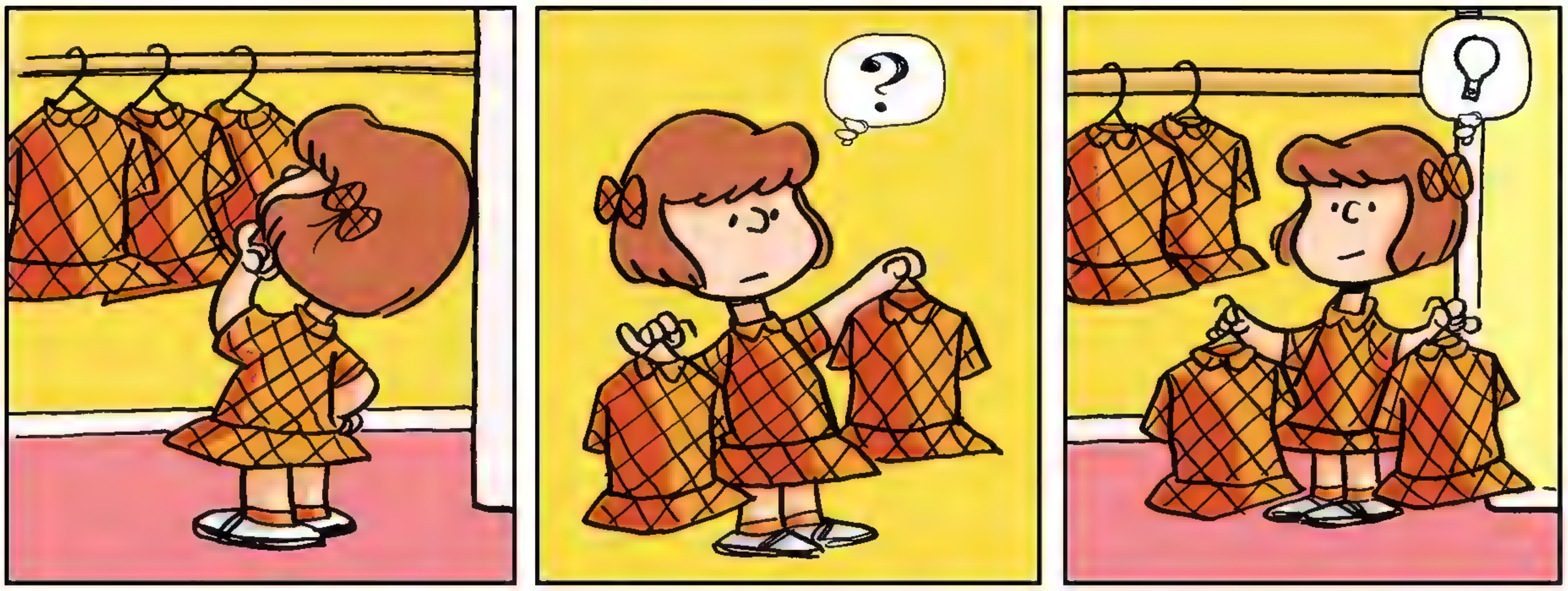
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU BROUGHT A NICE LOOKING **SUIT** FOR ALL THE **PHOTOGRAPHERS.**

UNLESS YOU THINK WE'LL **LOSE.** NOBODY WANTS THE **LOSERS'** PICTURE.

I THINK MY SUITCASE FEELS REMARKABLY **OPTIMISTIC.**

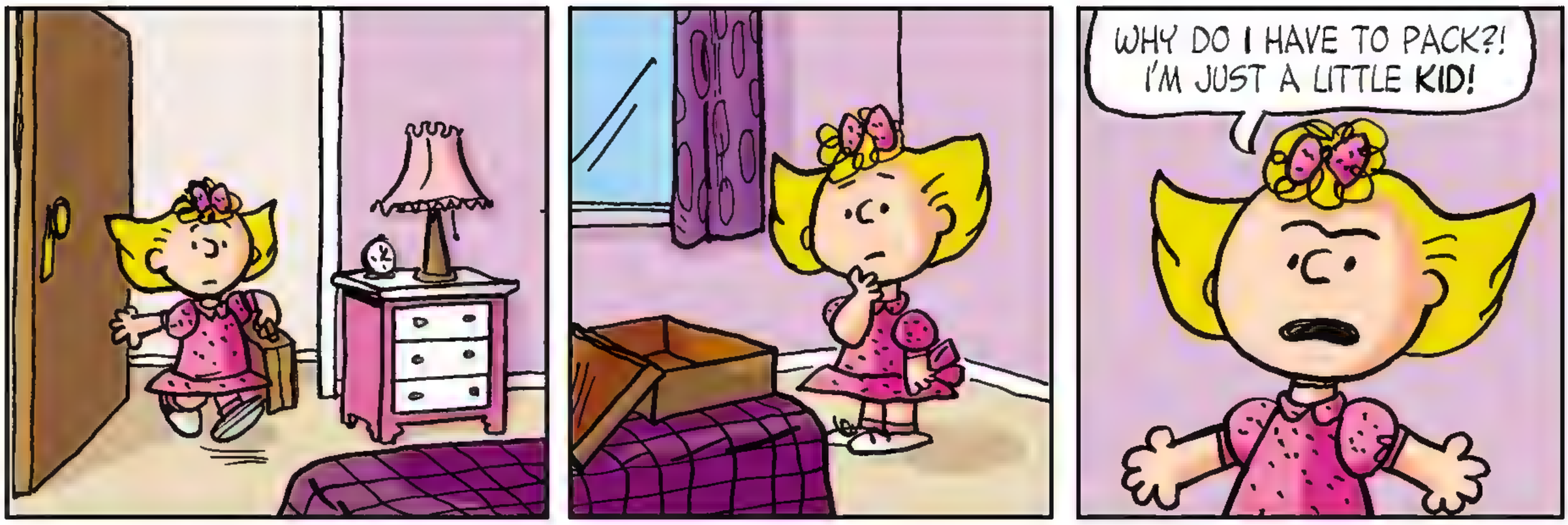



WHEW

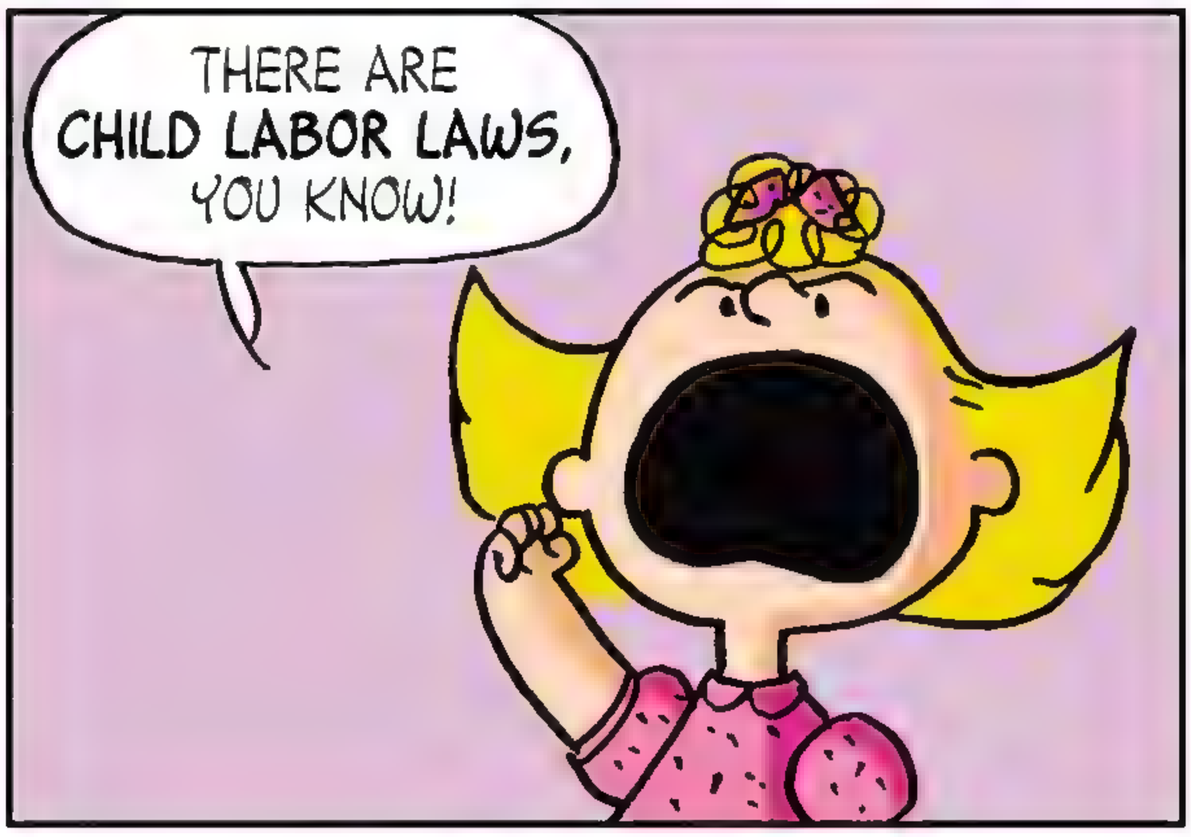



A GIRL LIKES TO HAVE CHOICES WHEN TRAVELING!

SLAM!
Thump!
Thump!
Thump!
WHAM


WHY DO I HAVE TO PACK?! I'M JUST A LITTLE KID!


I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SHOULDER ALL THIS RESPONSIBILITY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SAY GOODBYE TO MY CHILDHOOD! I HAVE MY RIGHTS!


THERE ARE CHILD LABOR LAWS, YOU KNOW!


ROOT ROOT
RUSTLE






DO YOU NEED ANY HELP PACKING?
HELP ME? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M DONE ALREADY.

GATHER 'ROUND, TEAM!

WE'VE BEEN GIVEN A **BIG** JOB. WE'RE REPRESENTING THE **ENTIRE** NATION! THIS IS HUGE **HONOR!** AND WITH SUCH AN HONOR COMES **GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.** WE'VE GOT TO PUT OUR **BEST** FOOT FORWARD! THE PRESIDENT IS COUNTING ON **US!**

NOW, **WHO'S** WITH ME? WHO WANTS TO TAKE THIS ALL THE WAY TO TOKYO AND **WIN?!**

I THINK THAT WAS THE CALL FOR US TO BOARD OUR FLIGHT.

IT'S PRETTY HARD TO HEAR ANNOUCEMENTS WHEN CHUCK IS MAKING SO MUCH RACKET!

SKEEEE

SIGH...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

WE'RE REALLY GOING!

BE CAREFUL OF MY **PIANO** IN THERE, LUCY!

I'LL MAKE IT **FIT** IN HERE IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!

LOOK AT HOW **TINY** EVERYTHING IS!

AND WE'RE NOT EVEN IN THE **AIR** YET!

WHERE'S MY **CHEWING GUM?!** HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO FLY WITHOUT ANY **CHEWING GUM?!**

THE SEATS OVER THE **WINGS** ARE THE BEST, SIR-- THEY'RE LEAST AFFECTED BY **TURBULENCE.**

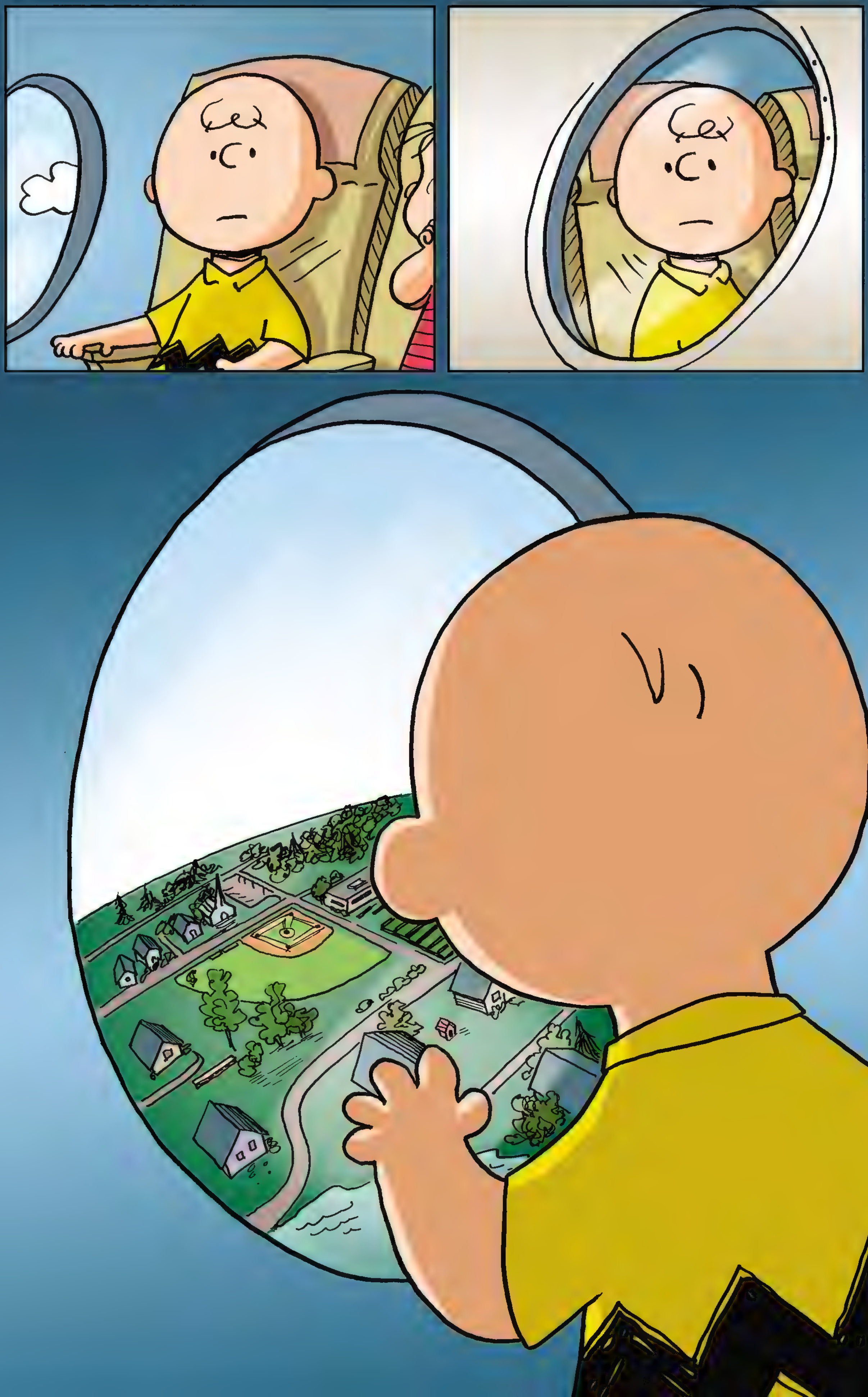
AND WE CAN WATCH WHEN THE **ENGINES** FALL OFF!

JET 477

SNAP

GARÇON!

ZIP!



HOW DO YOU THINK THIS GAME WILL GO, LINUS?

I DON'T KNOW, CHARLIE BROWN..I GUESS WE COULD **WIN**...OR MAYBE WE'LL **LOSE.** IT COULD GO EITHER WAY.

THAT'S WHAT I'M STARTING TO **WORRY** ABOUT.

IT WAS **EASY** TO IMAGINE WINNING WHEN THE GAME WAS **THOUSANDS** OF MILES AWAY. **ANYTHING** COULD HAPPEN. WE COULD WIN 100 TO ZERO, OR I COULD HIT A **HOME RUN** THAT BREAKS ALL THE RECORDS IN JAPAN AND BE VOTED **MVP!**

BUT THE CLOSER WE GET, THE MORE **HOPELESS** I FEEL. I'M **STILL** THE SAME OLD CHARLIE BROWN, AND THIS GAME WILL BE JUST ONE MORE WE ADD TO THE **LOSS COLUMN.**

WINS

LOSSES

THIS GAME WILL BE JUST LIKE **ALL** THE OTHERS...**TERRIBLE.**

WELL, CHARLIE BROWN, IF YOU LOOK AT IT **THAT** WAY, THERE WOULD BE **NO** REASON TO PLAY **AT ALL.** IF SOMEONE LOST THE **FIRST** GAME HE EVER PLAYED, AND HE THOUGHT THAT **EVERY** GAME WOULD END THE **SAME** AS THE FIRST, WHY WOULD HE PLAY THE **SECOND** GAME? BUT YOU'VE PLAYED **HUNDREDS** OF GAMES, CHARLIE BROWN, AND EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE **LOST** HUNDREDS OF GAMES, YOU **STILL** LOOK FORWARD TO THE **NEXT** ONE. YOU ALWAYS BELIEVE THERE'S A **CHANCE!**

(•C•)

YOU'RE THE MOST **OPTIMISTIC** PERSON I KNOW!

C

MY STOMACH IS ALL IN **KNOTS.** I WOULD HATE TO IMAGINE HOW THE **LEAST** OPTIMISTIC PERSON FEELS.

(•)•)

SCHROEDER, DON'T YOU THINK I'LL LOOK **PRETTY** IN A REAL JAPANESE KIMONO?

Beethoven Abroad

MY KIMONO WILL BE COVERED IN LITTLE **BLUE FLOWERS.** EVERYONE WILL COMMENT ON WHAT AN INTERNATIONAL BEAUTY YOUR GIRLFRIEND IS!

Beethoven Abroad

THEN I'LL SERVE YOU **TEA** BECAUSE JAPANESE PEOPLE DRINK LOTS OF TEA. IT'S VERY **IMPORTANT** TO DRINK TEA IN JAPAN.

IT WILL BE SO NICE YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO DO **ANYTHING** ELSE AND WE'LL BE SO HAPPY DRINKING TEA TOGETHER IN JAPAN FOREVER AND EVER!

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN JAPAN **CLASSICAL MUSIC** IS VERY POPULAR AMONGST CHILDREN? THEY KNOW ALL ABOUT BEETHOVEN!

I'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY HIS 9TH SYMPHONY WITH JAPANESE KIDS! AND HIS PIANO CONCERTO NUMBER 3...IT WILL BE **AMAZING!**

AND IT WON'T EVEN MATTER THAT WE DON'T SPEAK THE SAME **LANGUAGE!**

OH, IT WILL MATTER. YOU AND I DON'T SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE AND **THAT'S** NOT VERY SATISFYING.

Beethoven Abroad

DID YOU KNOW, SIR, THAT JAPAN IS ABOUT THE SAME SIZE AS **MONTANA?** AND IF YOU COMBINED THE POPULATION OF **EVERY STATE** WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI, IT **STILL** WOULDN'T BE EQUAL TO JAPAN'S!

JAPAN FACTS

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

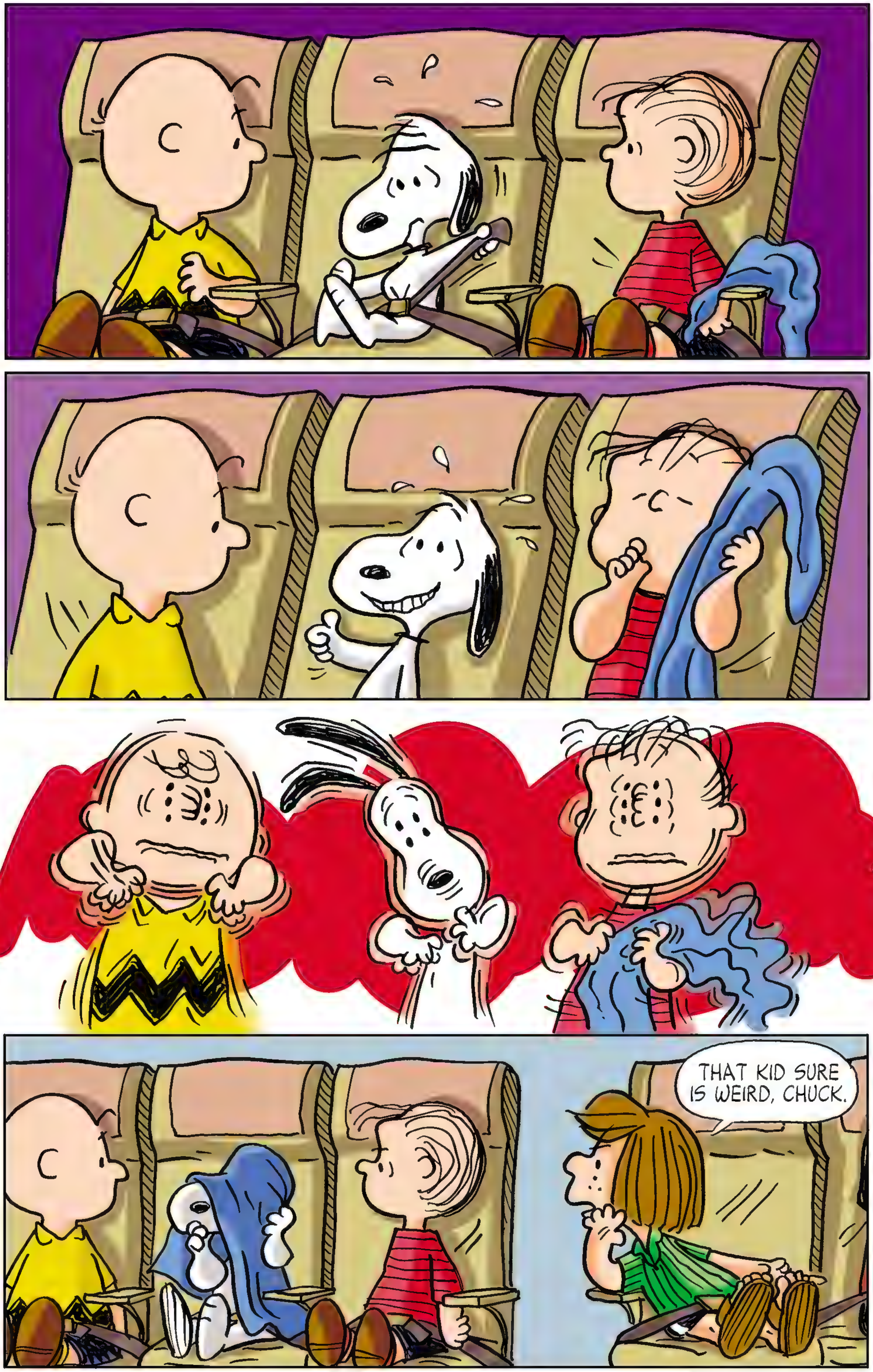
CAPTAIN

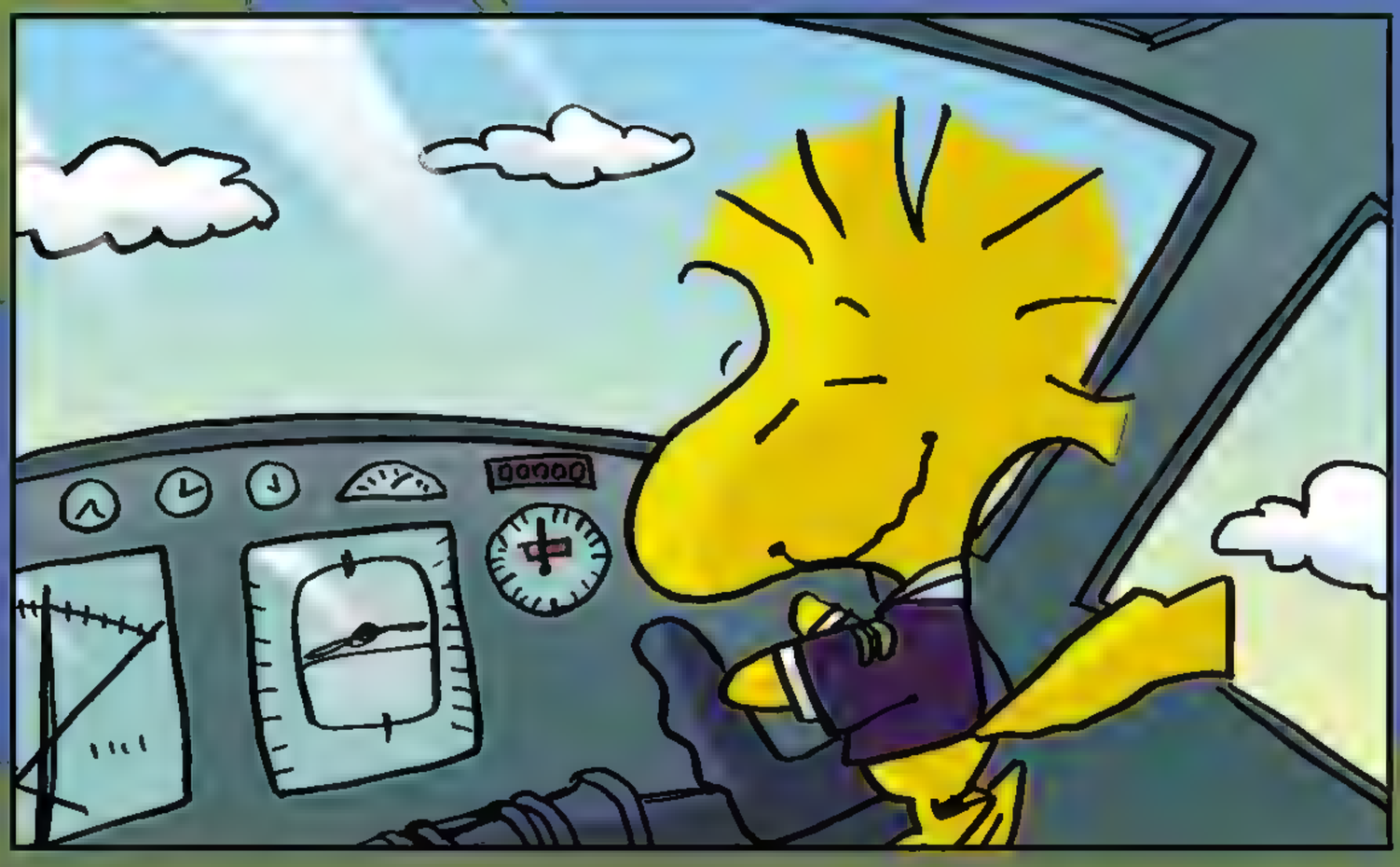
WHOOSH!

(• ⌒ •)

(• C •)

ZOOM!


THAT KID SURE IS WEIRD, CHUCK.



SCREECH!

OUR BUS IS HERE!

HATO BUS

THAT'S **MOUNT FUJI.** IT'S THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A **STRATOVOLCANO** AND HAS BEEN BUILT UP FOR MILLENNIA BY LAYERS OF **LAVA** AND **ASH...**

TRAVEL BUS

WHILE MOUNT FUJI LOOKS **SERENE,** THERE IS INCREASING **SEISMIC** ACTIVITY, HINTING AT THE POSSIBILE REAWAKENING OF THE VOLCANO.

I'VE NEVER SEEN A PLACE SO **BIG** IN MY LIFE! WHO ANSWERS ALL THE **TELEPHONES** AROUND HERE?

JAPAN FACTS

THIS IS A **PAGODA**. IT IS BUILT OF FIVE LAYERS, EACH LAYER REPRESENTS A DIFFERENT **ELEMENT.** THE STRUCTURES ARE NOT NAILED TOGETHER, BUT INSTEAD EACH PIECE IS **SLOTTED** INTO THE NEXT. THIS CONSTRUCTION METHOD LETS THE BUILDING MOVE DURING HIGH WINDS OR **EARTHQUAKES.**

JAPAN FACTS

ARE YOU **SURE** THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT TO JAPAN, CHARLIE BROWN? BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE THEY MODELED THE TOKYO DOME AFTER YOUR **HEAD!**

ACTUALLY, IT'S A SPORTS ARENA.

THIS IS A **BUDDHIST SHRINE**, SIR. BUDDHISM IS THE PREDOMINANT RELIGION OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE.

IT'S SO FANCY!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL US WHAT **THIS** IS, MARCIE--WE KNOW **SHOPPING** WHEN WE SEE IT!

LOOK AT ALL THOSE PRETTY **PLAID** DRESSES!

BUG

FINALLY! WE'RE AT OUR HOTEL!

WOW!

OH MY GOSH! LOOK AT THAT **PIANO!**

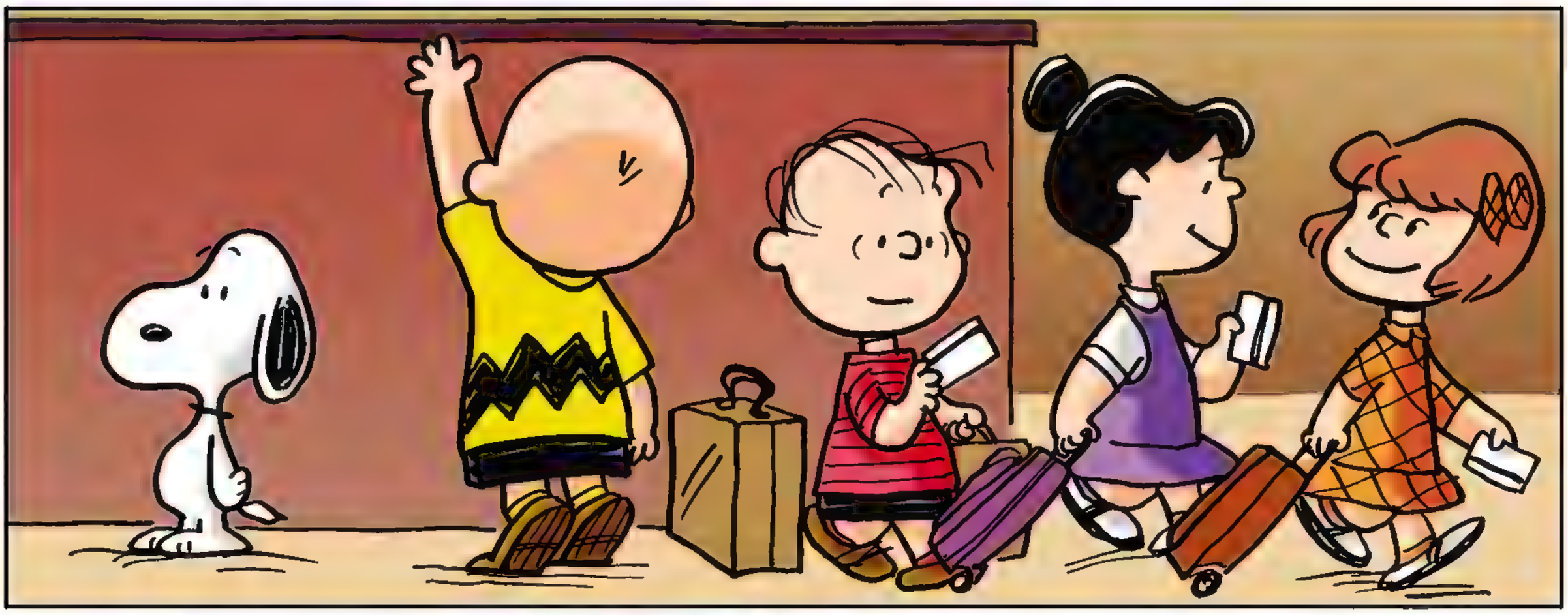
IT'S A DREAM COME **TRUE!** I CAN'T **BELIEVE** I'M SO CLOSE TO SUCH A **LEGENDARY** INSTRUMENT! IF BEETHOVEN WERE ALIVE TODAY, **THAT'S** THE PIANO **HE** WOULD PLAY!

JUST LOOK AT THAT FINE **CRAFTSMANSHIP!**

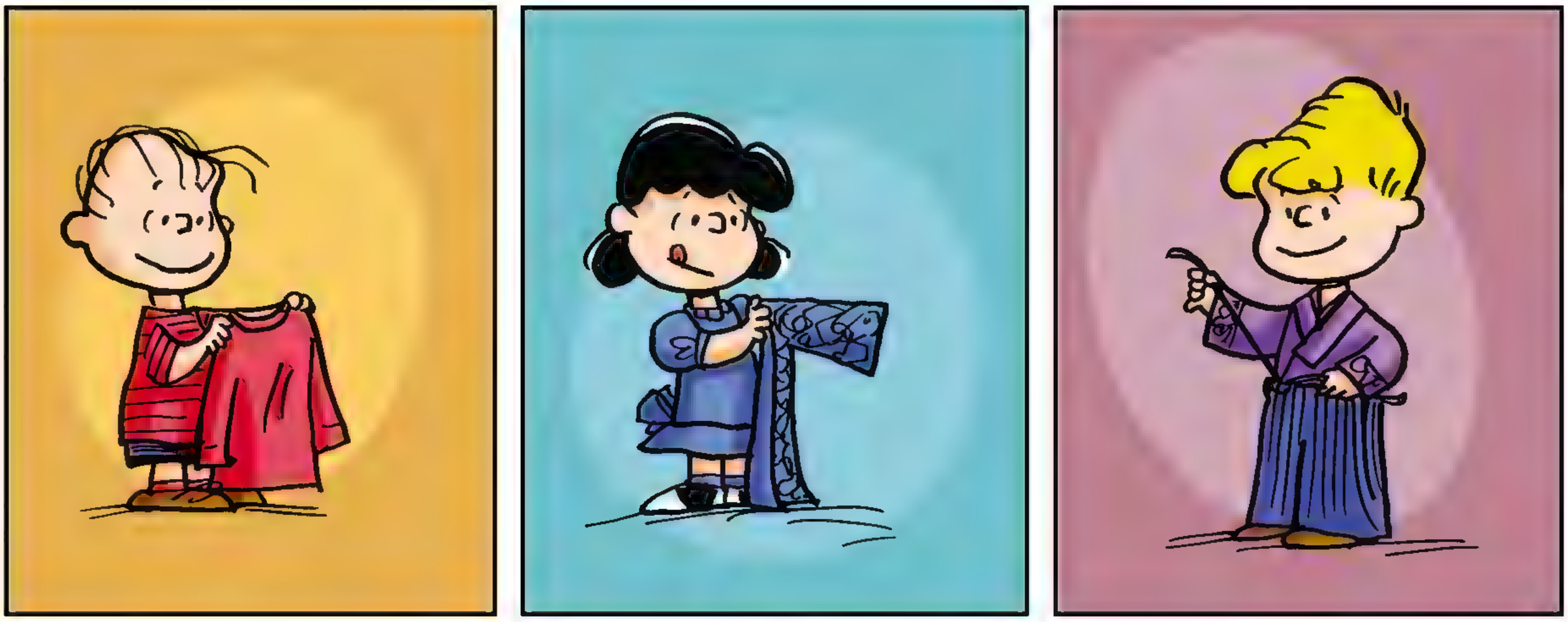
THOSE **BEAUTIFUL** IVORY KEYS!

I CAN'T **RESIST!** I'VE GOT TO **PLAY!**

GOOD GRIEF.




WAM!



BOY! THESE **PAJAMAS** ARE COMFY!

THOSE AREN'T PAJAMAS, SIR, YOU'RE WEARING A **KIMONO.**

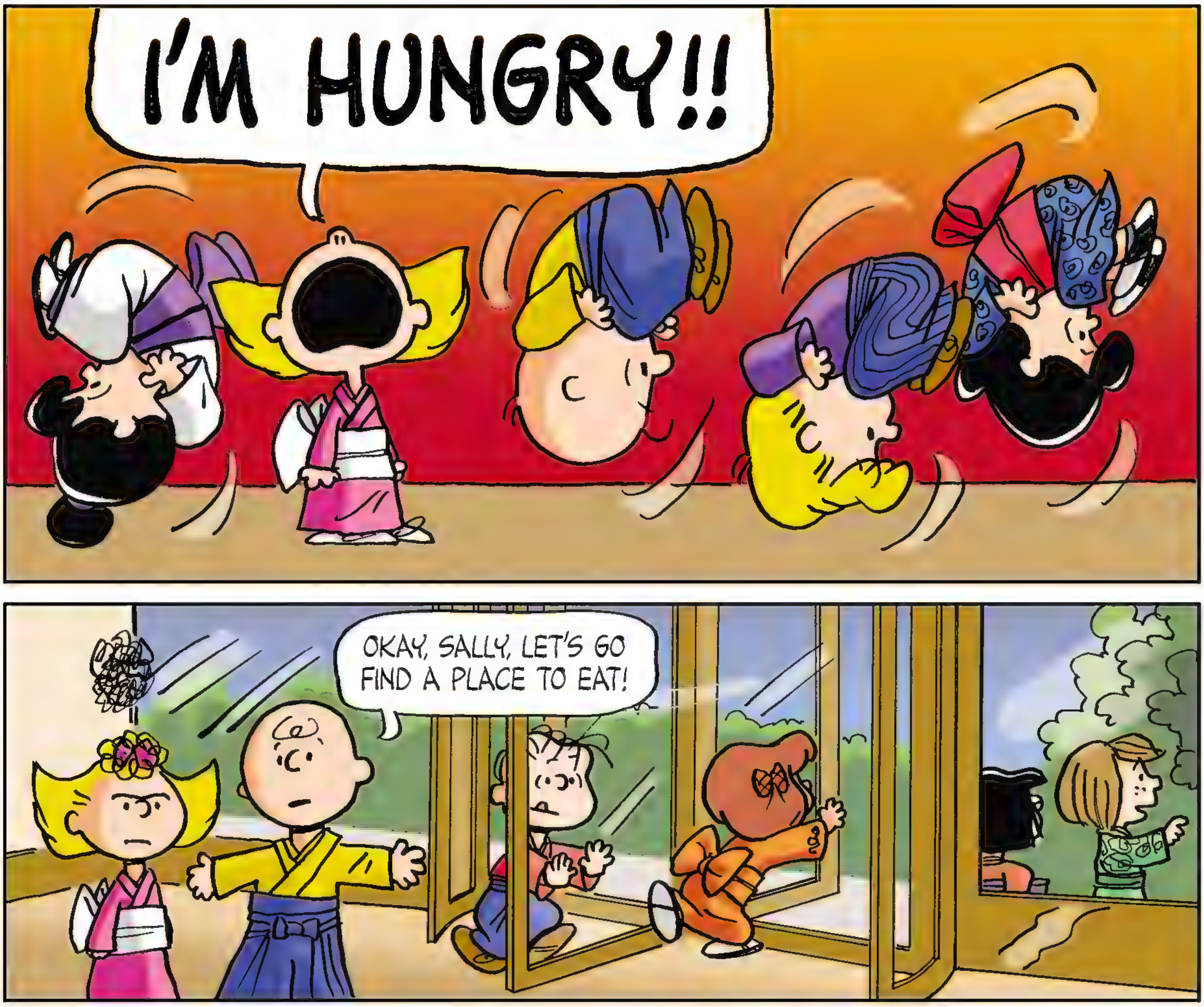
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

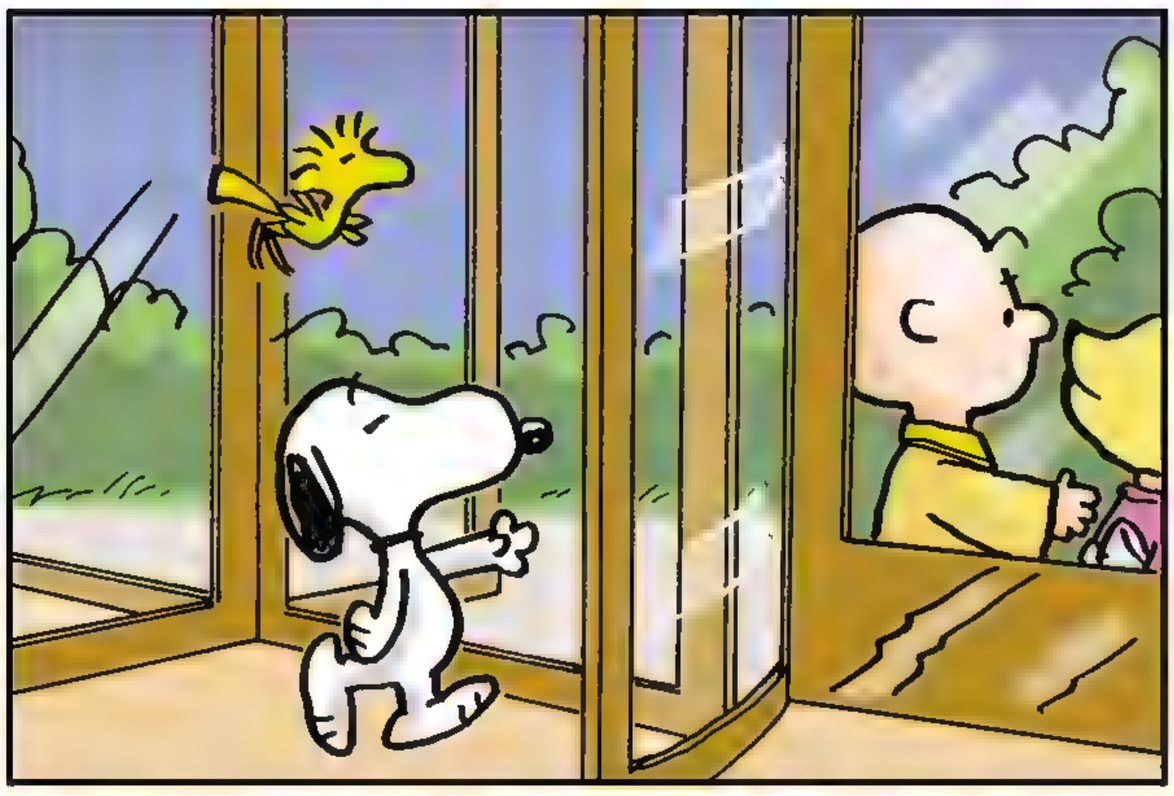
I HAD TROUBLE WITH THE KNOTS.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL ME HOW **PRETTY** I LOOK IN THIS KIMONO, SCHROEDER?

ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU **ALWAYS** WEAR?

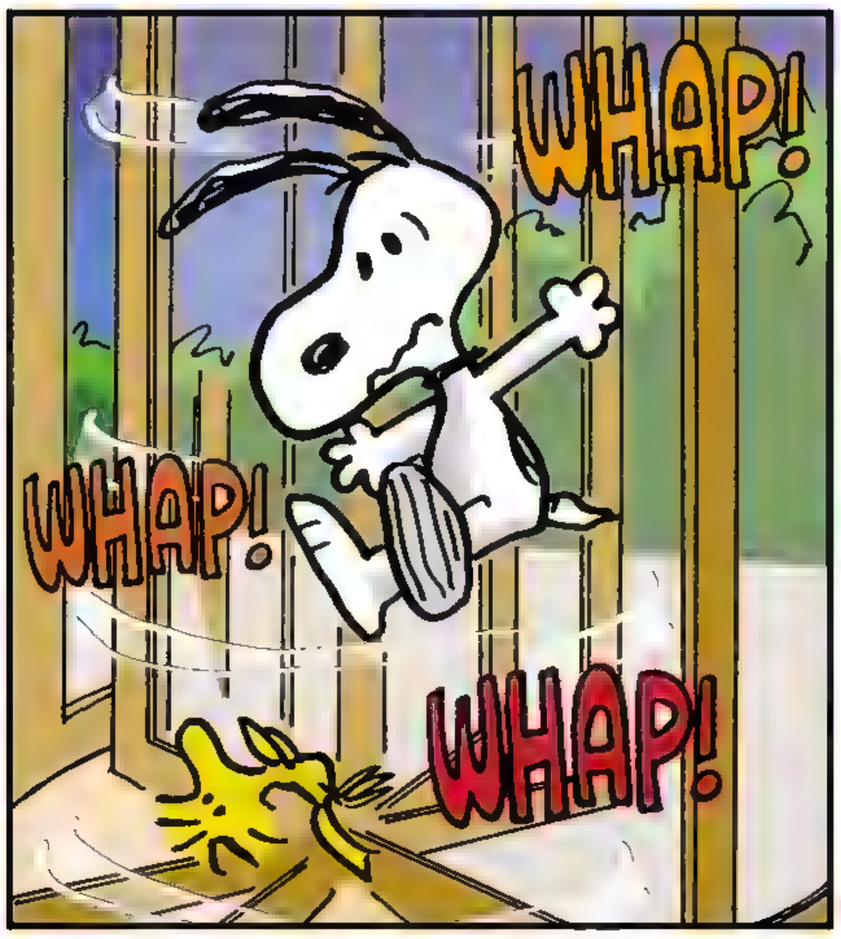
SIGH. I'VE ALWAYS HEARD "LOVE IS BLIND" BUT I THOUGHT IT MEANT SOMETHING ELSE.


I'M HUNGRY!!
OKAY, SALLY, LET'S GO FIND A PLACE TO EAT!




WHUP
WHUP
WHUP


SWOOP!
SWIP!


WHAP!
WHAP!
WHAP!


WUMP!

HOW ABOUT THIS, CHUCK--A **ROMANTIC** NIGHT WITH JUST THE TWO OF US. YOU KIND OF **LIKE** ME, DON'T YOU CHUCK?

TEP PAN CO

HOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?

THIS IS A **TEPPAN** RESTAURANT, SIR--THAT MEANS THE **CHEF** WILL COME OUT AND COOK RIGHT IN **FRONT** OF US!

Hiba chug

HEY! CHECK IT OUT, CHUCK-- I GOT A PAIR OF **DRUMSTICKS!**

BOOM BIDDY BOOM rat-a tat-tat

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT A **STUFFY** PLACE LIKE THIS WOULD BE SO FUN!

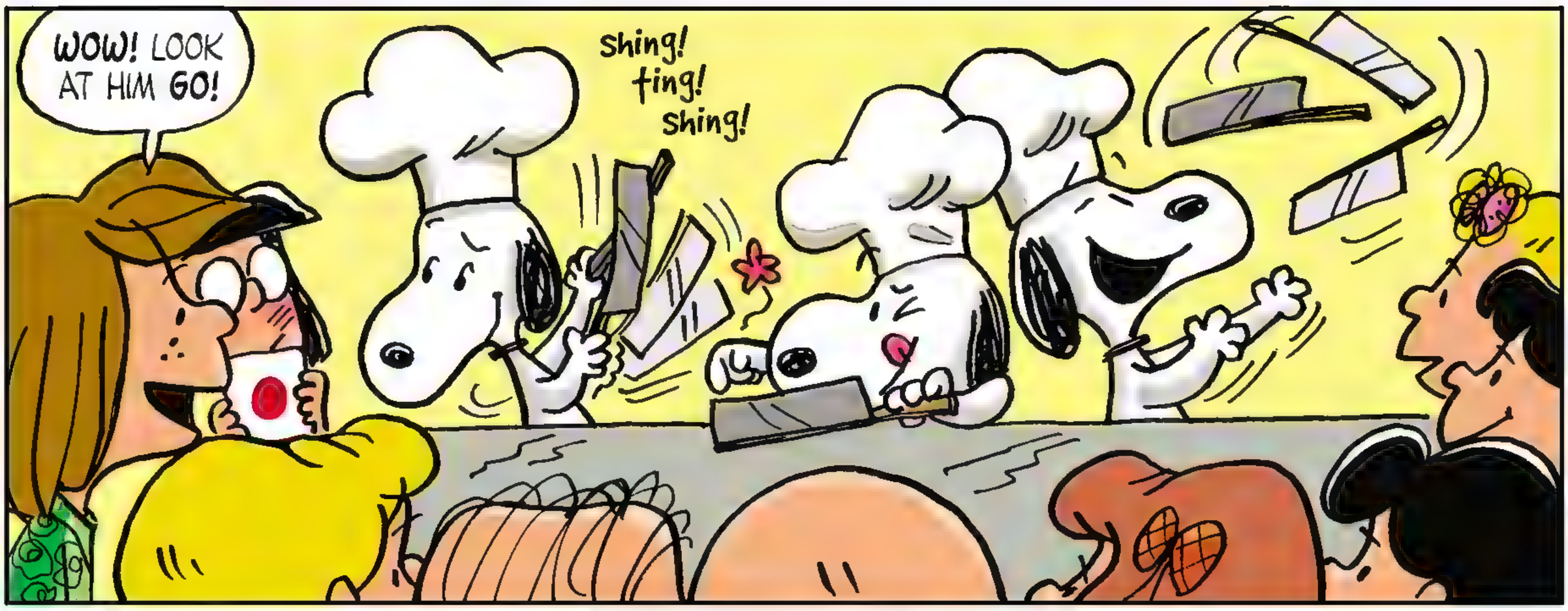
BOOM BIDDY BOOM rat-a tat-tat

THOSE ARE **CHOPSTICKS,** SIR. YOU'RE MEANT TO **EAT** WITH THEM, NOT **PLAY** WITH THEM.

SWIP!

OH..SORRY.

THE TEPPAN GRILL CAN REACH A TEMPERATURE OF **450 DEGREES** IN MINUTES! THE CHEF WILL PREPARE OUR **ENTIRE** MEAL ON IT!

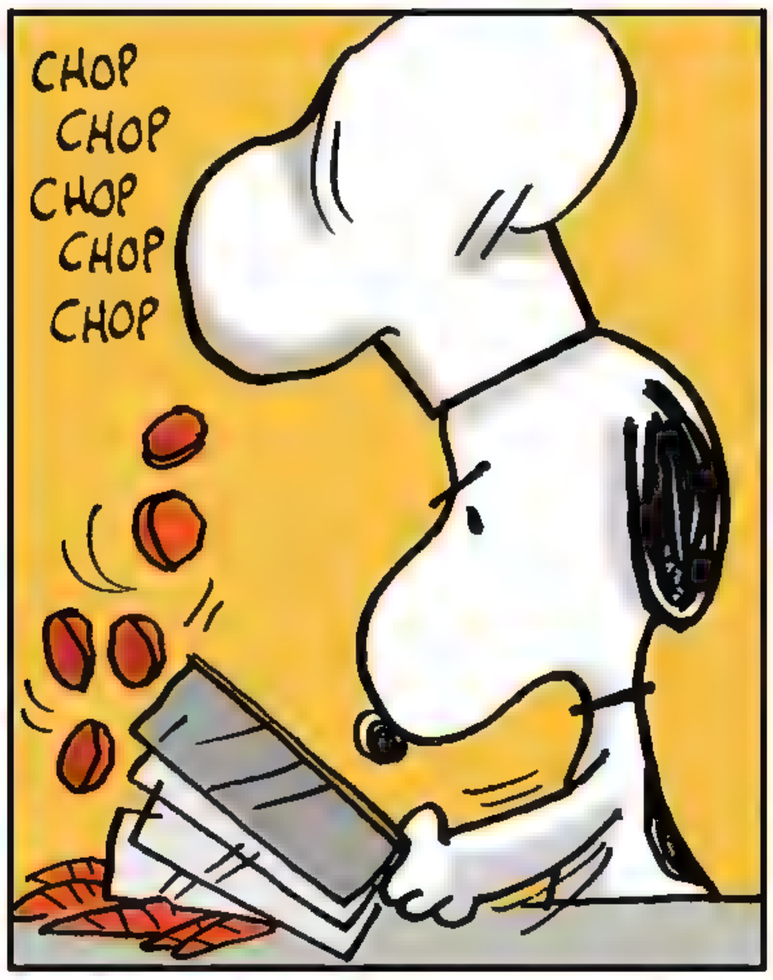

WOW! LOOK AT HIM GO!
Shing! ting! shing!


swicka swicka

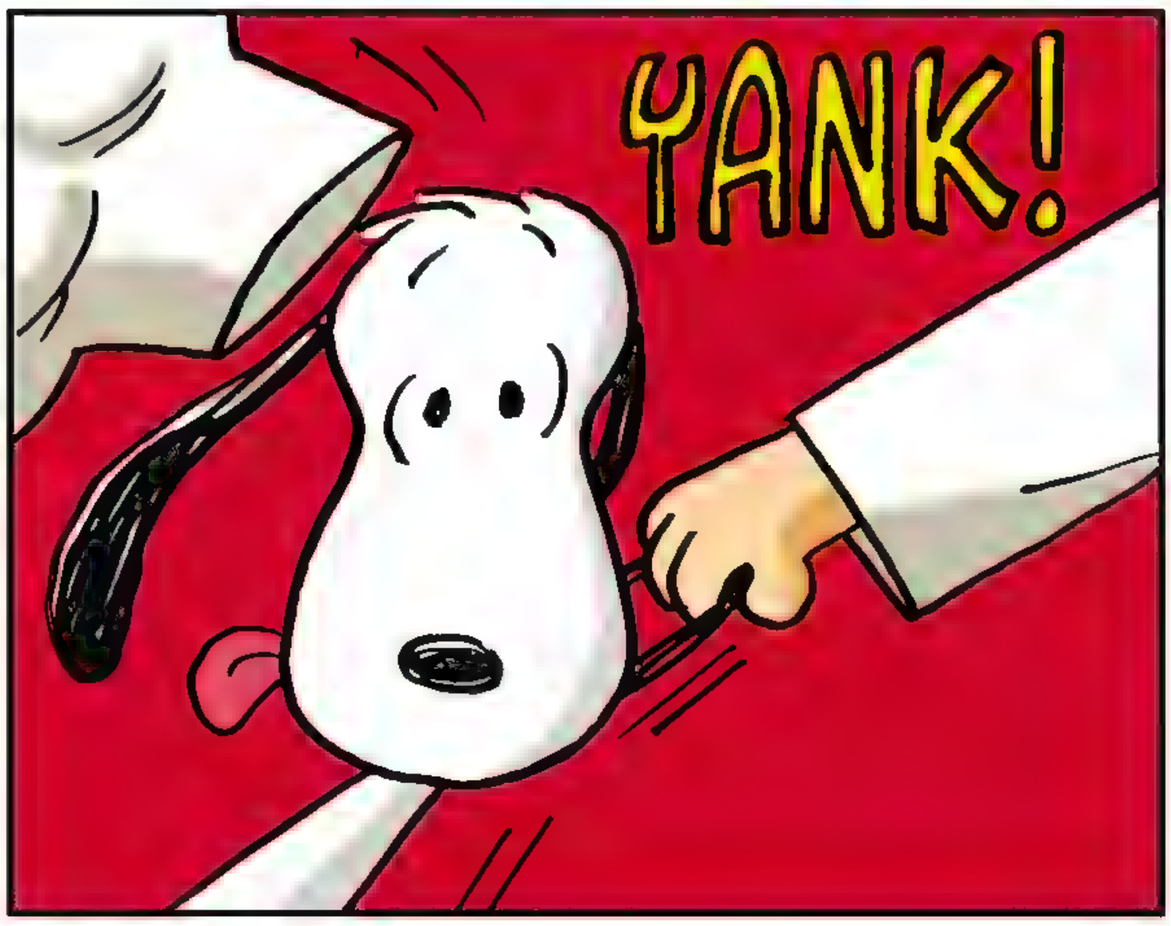

SWISH!


TING TANG


SWOOP!


CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP


toss!


YANK!


BOOT!

BAM!
BAM!
BAM!

toss!

oooooooooo ooooooo

FWOOSH!

THIS ISN'T SO TOUGH TO DO...

OOPS..IT'S HARDER THAN IT LOOKS...

OW! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

POINK!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THESE **BLOCKHEADS** ARE HAVING SO MUCH TROUBLE WITH THESE THINGS!

CHOPSTICKS ARE **EASY!**

HELP!

WHAT IS THIS? ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME **STARVE** TO **DEATH?!** I NEED **REAL** SILVERWARE OVER HERE! WHERE'S MY **WAITER?!** SOMEBODY GET ME A **FORK!**

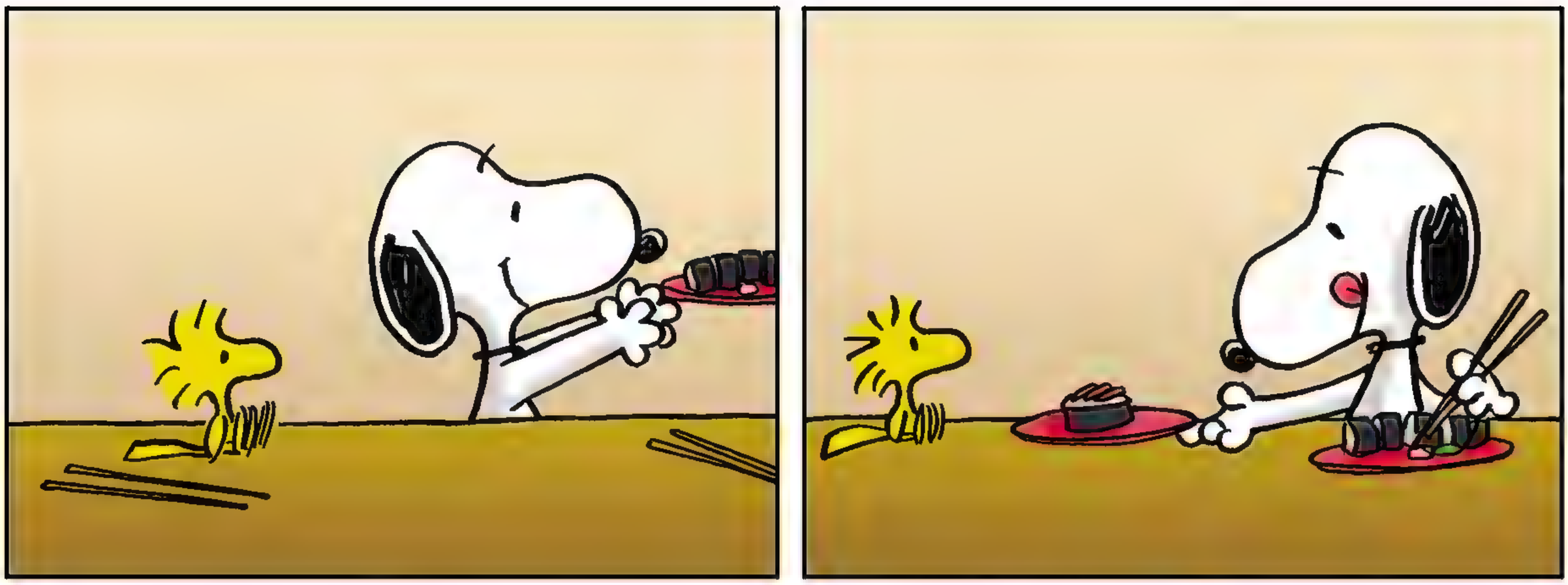
SUSHI

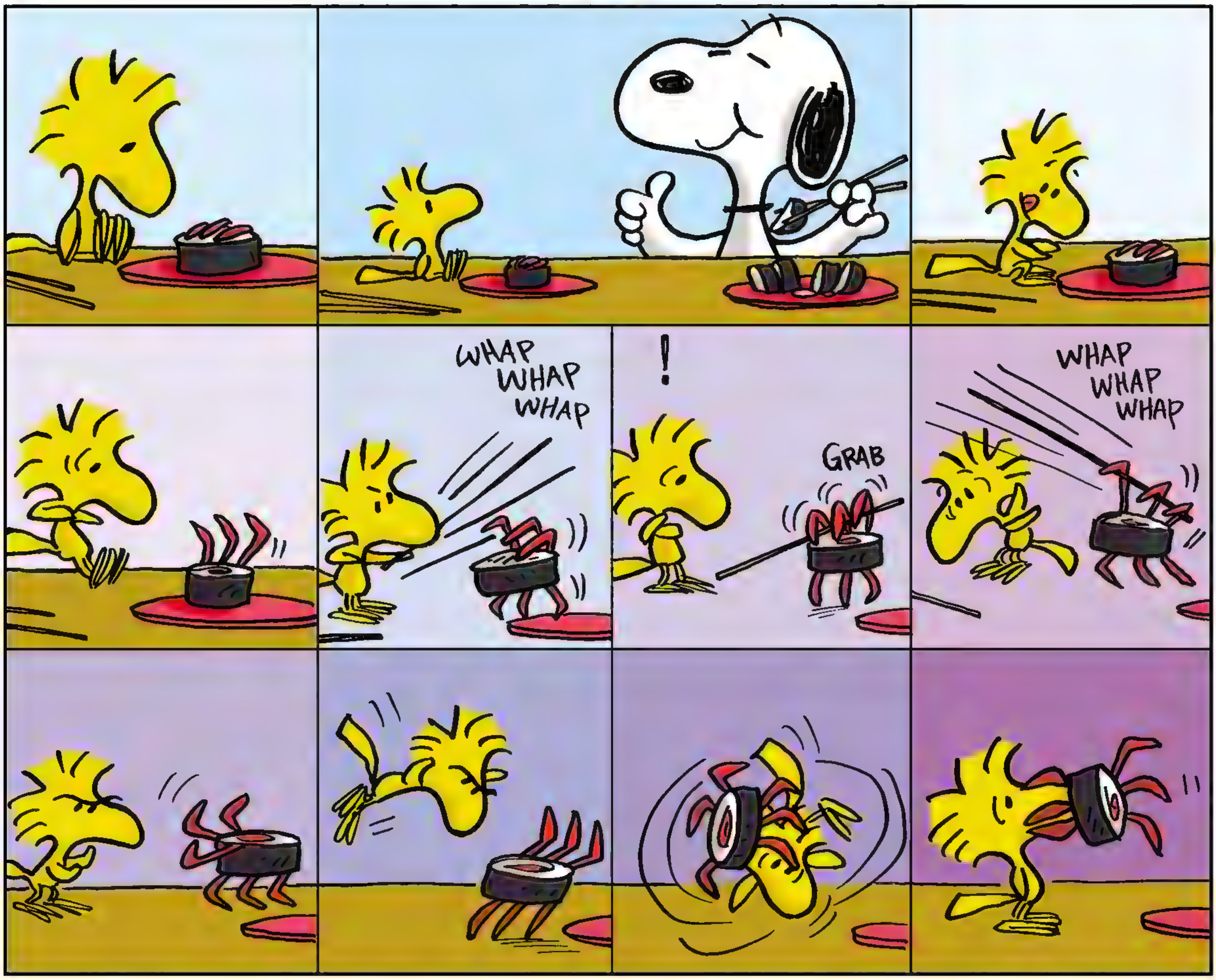
SUSHI

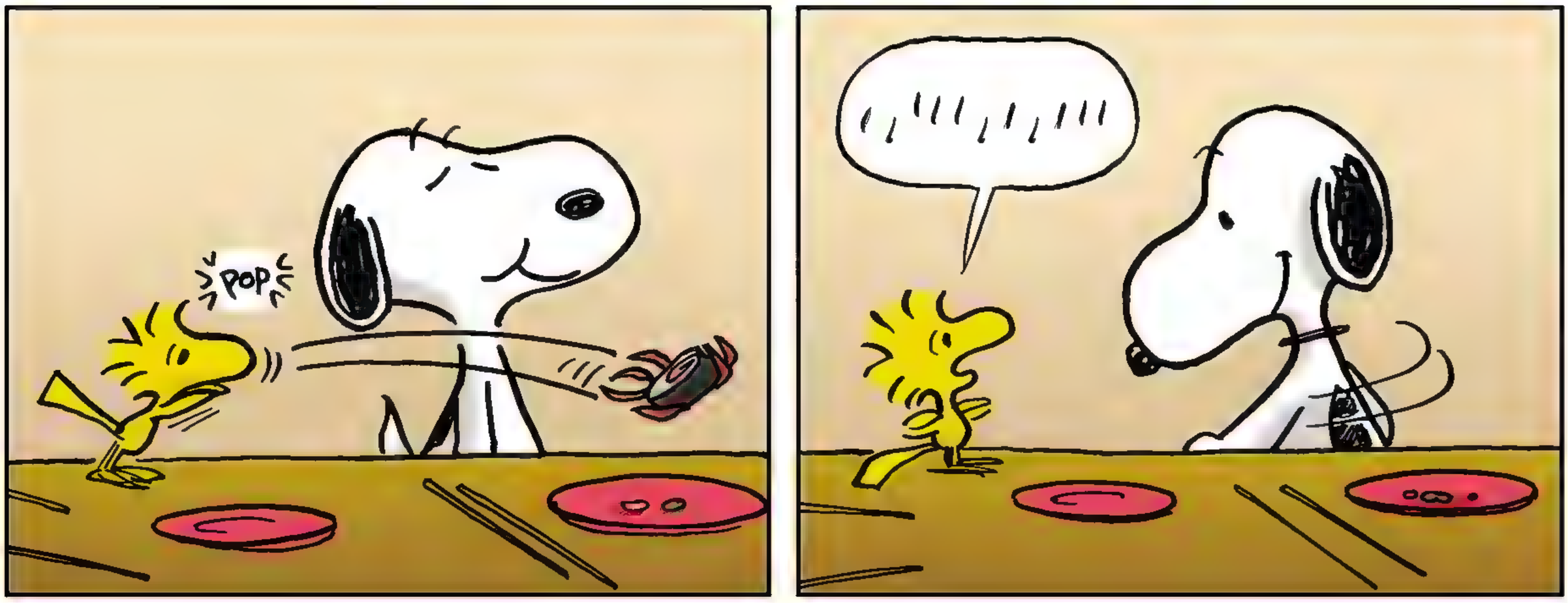
ふくら
とびこ
アバコ

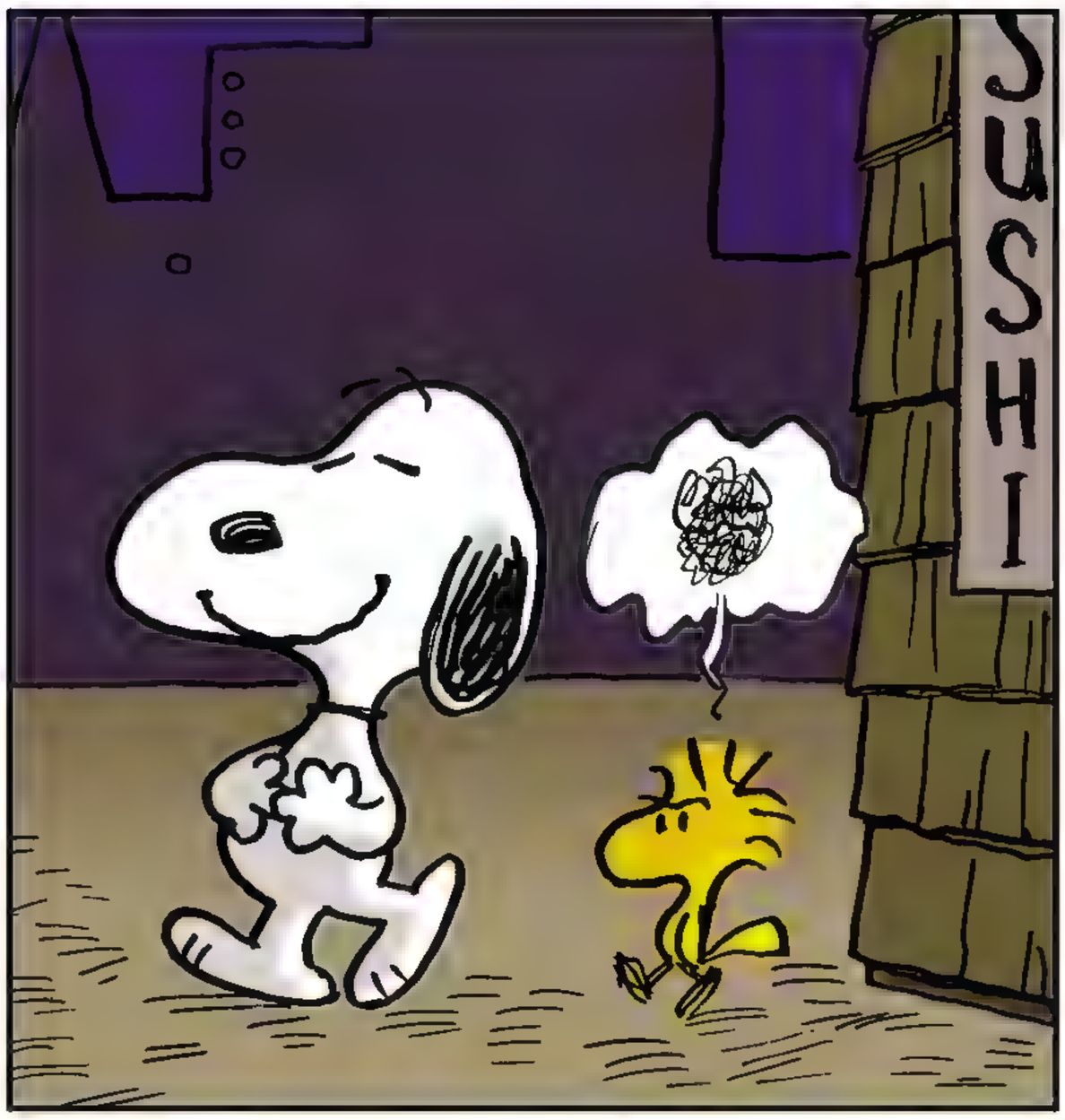
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えび

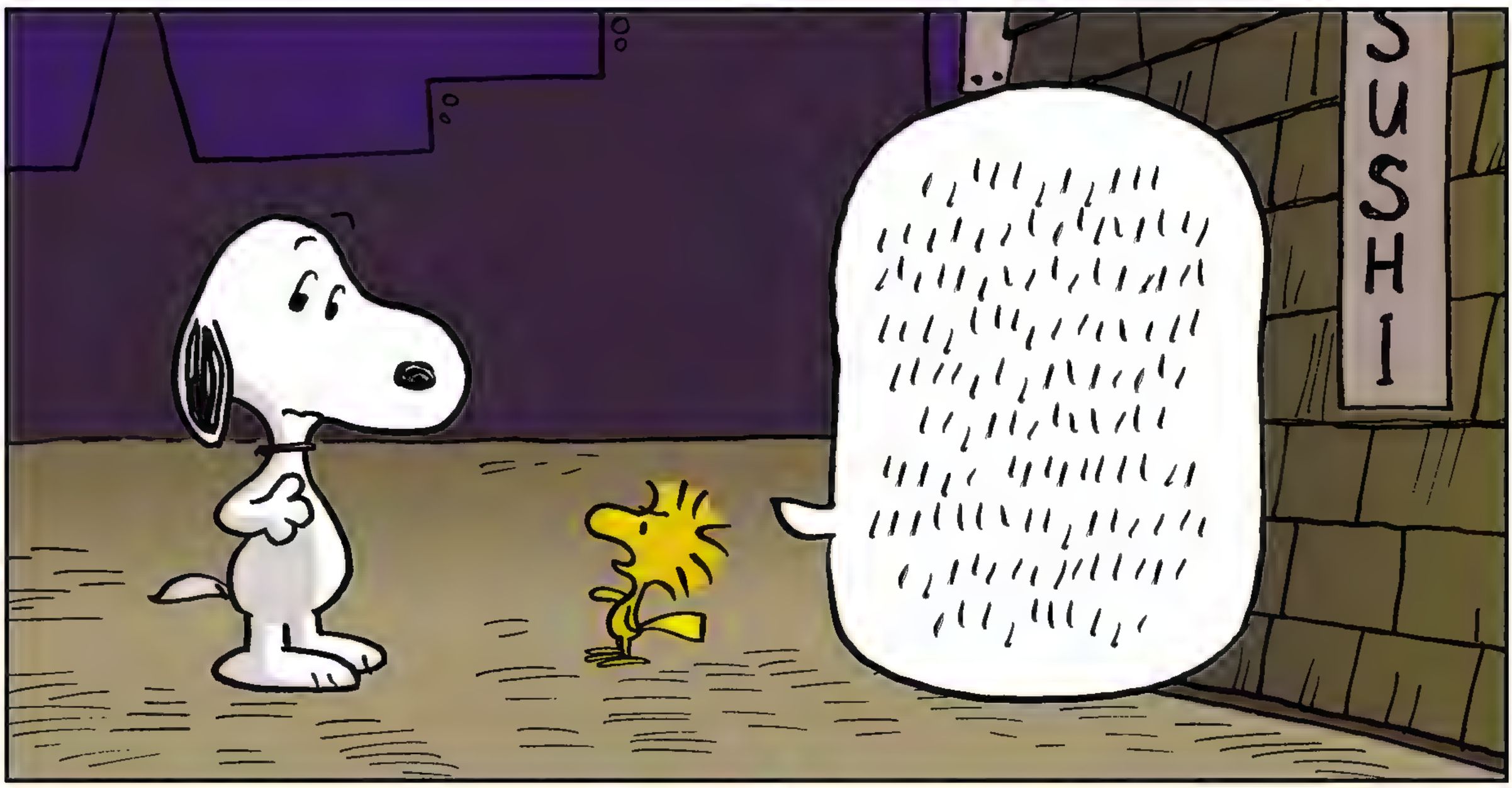



WHAP
WHAP
WHAP
!
GRAB
WHAP
WHAP
WHAP


POP


SUSHI


BLEAH!


SUSHI


PAT
PAT
sniff


YAWN
SIGH.

YOU KNOW, LINUS, MAYBE I'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT NOTHING...

TOKYO IS SUCH A **DIFFERENT** WORLD FROM OURS.

THE **BUILDINGS** ARE DIFFERENT.. THE **FOOD** IS DIFFERENT...THE **CLOTHES** ARE DIFFERENT...

MAYBE HERE IN JAPAN, I CAN BE A **WINNER!**

UGH...THE **WORLD** MAY BE DIFFERENT, BUT **I'M** STILL THE SAME.

GOOD NIGHT, CHARLIE BROWN.

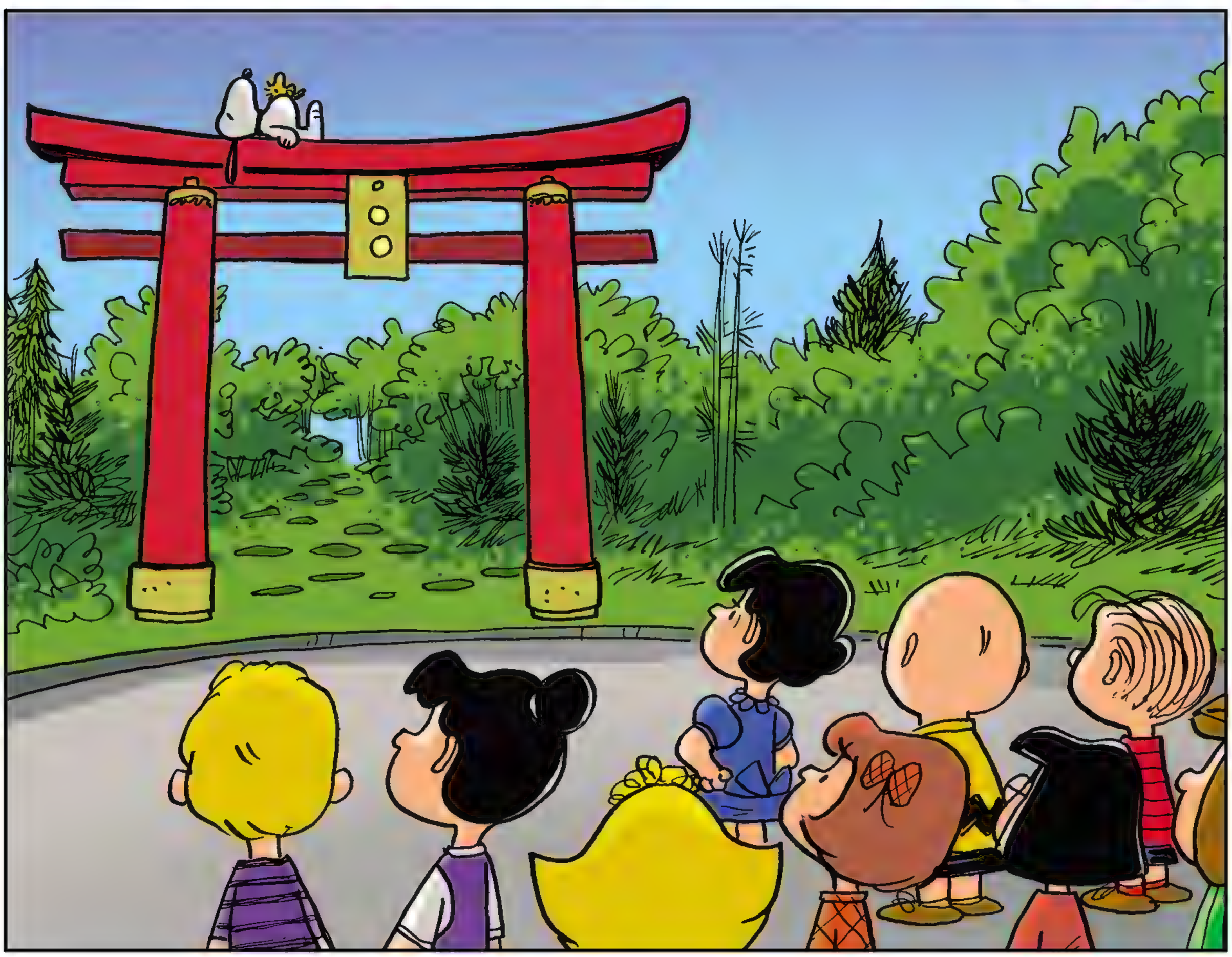
LISTEN UP, GANG! TODAY IS THE **BIG DAY!**

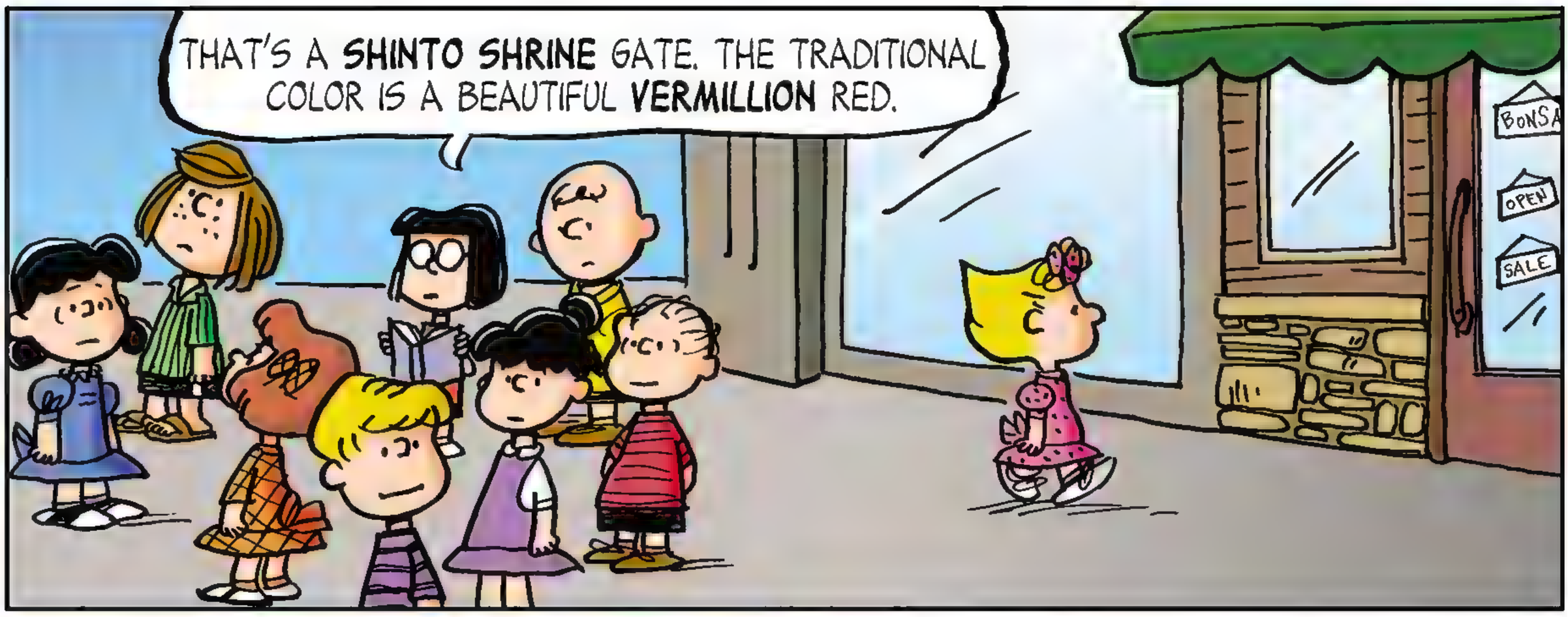
WE HAVE SOME TIME THIS MORNING TO SIGHT-SEE BUT THIS AFTERNOON WE PLAY THE GAME OF OUR **LIVES!** WE'VE GOT TO BE MORE **FOCUSED** THAN WE'VE EVER BEEN BEFORE! AND THAT MEANS WE'VE GOT TO PLAY AS **ONE!** WE'VE GOT TO HAVE EACH OTHERS' **BACKS,** WE'VE GOT TO BE A TIGHT **TEAM!** A SUPER **SQUAD! ALL** FOR **ONE** AND **ONE** FOR--

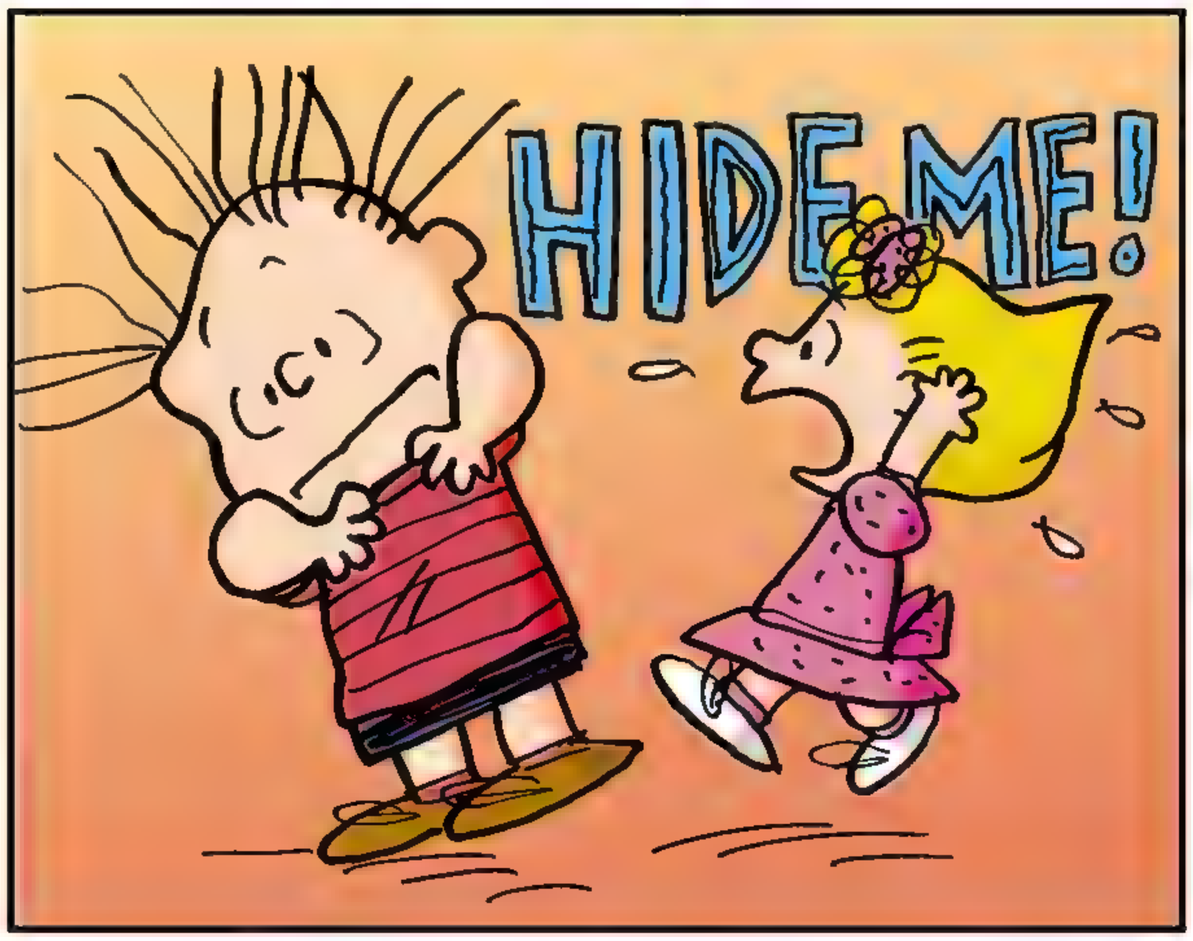
...ALL.

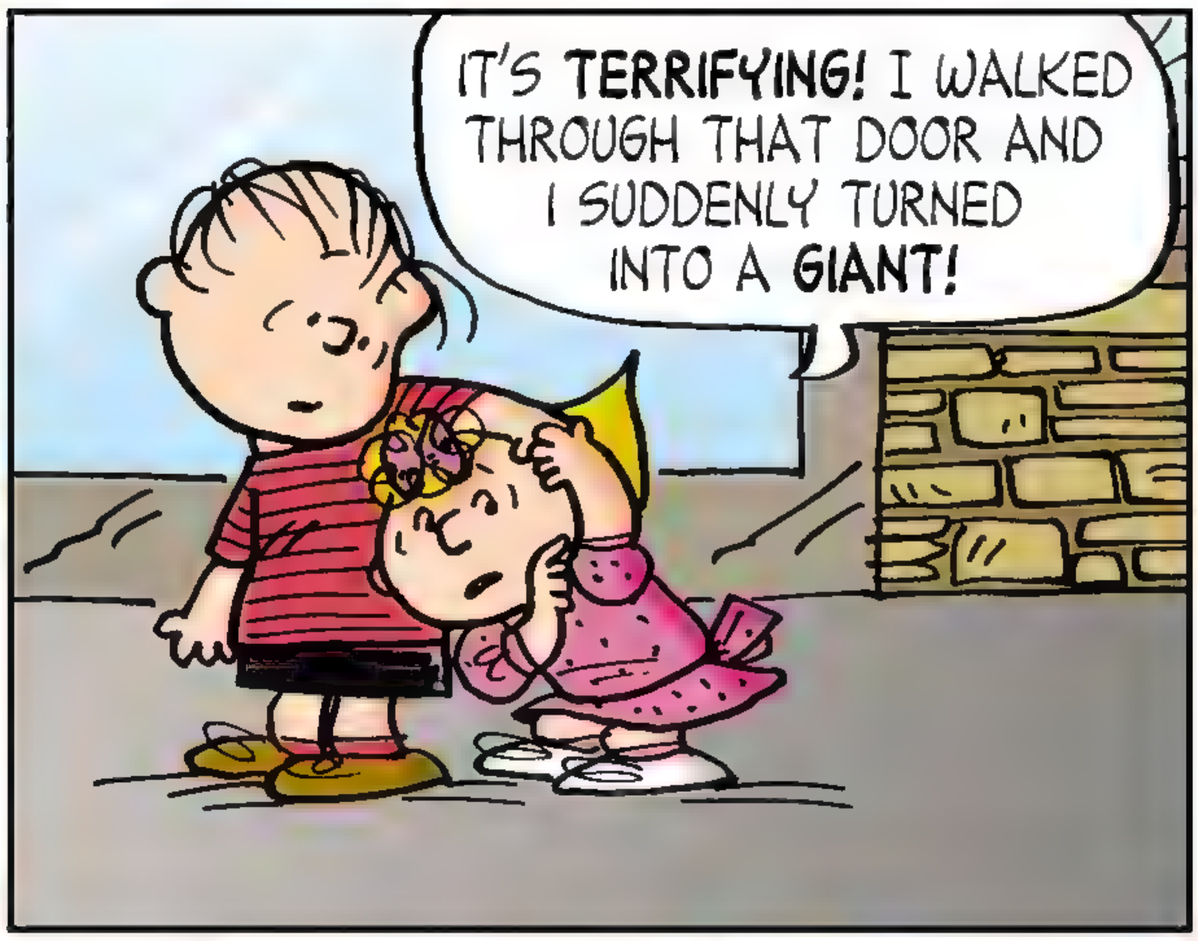

HEY, CHARLIE BROWN! YOU BETTER GET OUT HERE AND SEE WHAT YOUR **STUPID DOG** IS UP TO NOW!

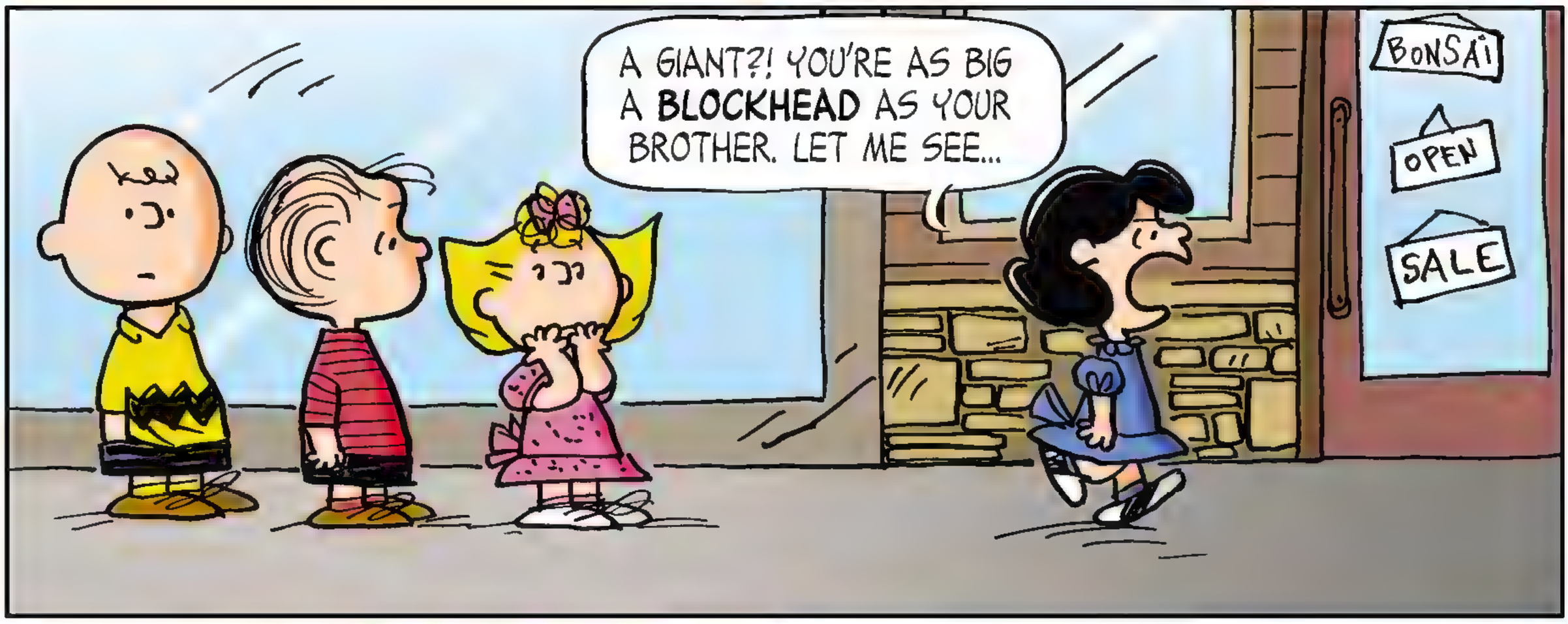

LOOK!



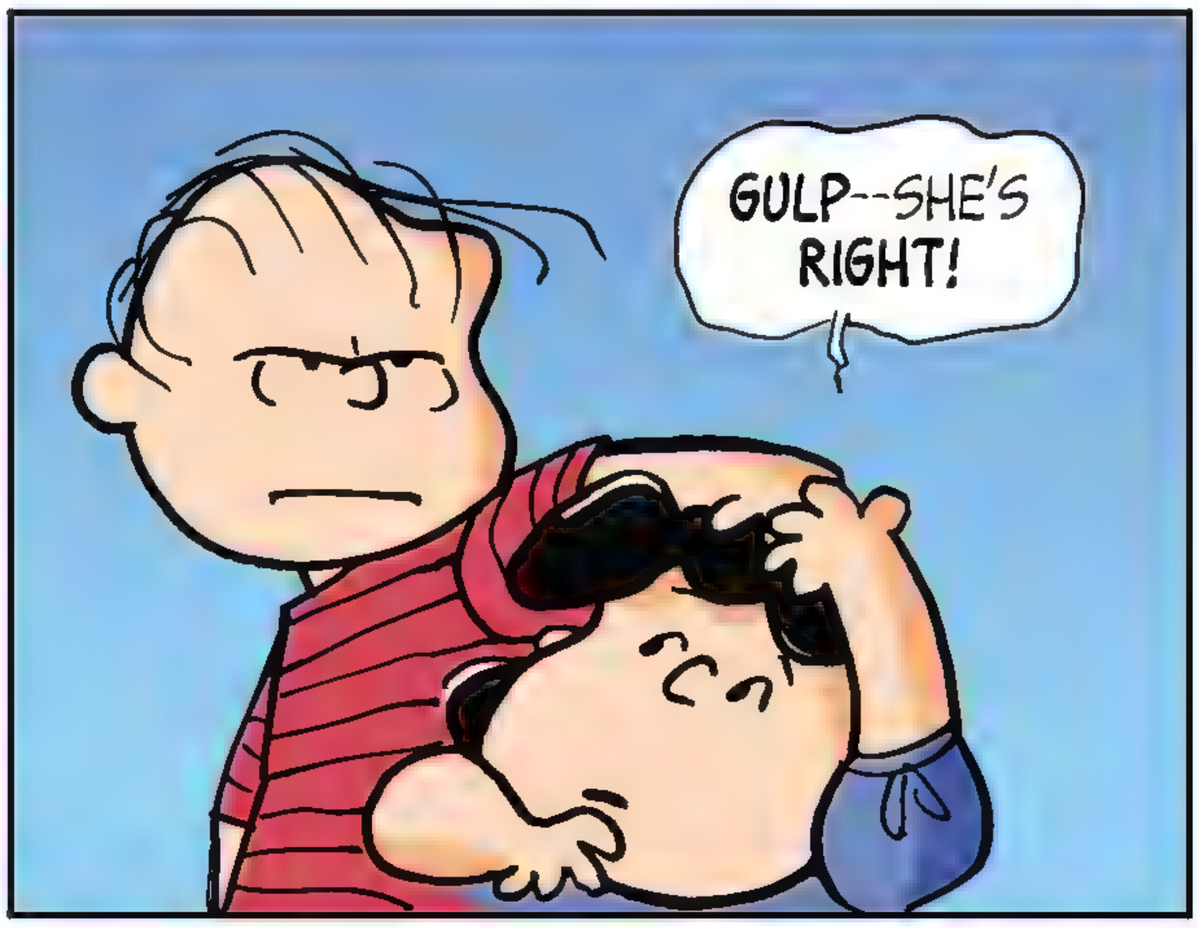

THAT'S A SHINTO SHRINE GATE. THE TRADITIONAL COLOR IS A BEAUTIFUL VERMILLION RED.
BONSAI
OPEN
SALE


HIDE ME!


IT'S TERRIFYING! I WALKED THROUGH THAT DOOR AND I SUDDENLY TURNED INTO A GIANT!


A GIANT?! YOU'RE AS BIG A BLOCKHEAD AS YOUR BROTHER. LET ME SEE...
BONSAI
OPEN
SALE


AAGHH!


GULP--SHE'S RIGHT!

THIS SHOP SELLS **BONSAI TREES!**

BONSAI

OPEN

SALE

BON MEANS DISH AND **SAI** MEANS TREE, SO **BONSAI** MEANS "TREE PLANTED IN A DISH." THE TREES ARE TRAINED TO GROW VERY **SMALL!**

BONSAI

OPEN

SALE

WE SHOULD GO IN, SIR!

STOP CALLING ME "SIR," MARCIE.

THE ART OF BONSAI HAS BEEN AROUND FOR **HUNDREDS** OF YEARS--IT IS A **FUSION** OF ANCIENT JAPANESE CUSTOMS AND EASTERN PHILOSOPHY. EACH TREE EXPRESSES THE **HARMONY** BETWEEN **HEAVEN** AND **EARTH.**

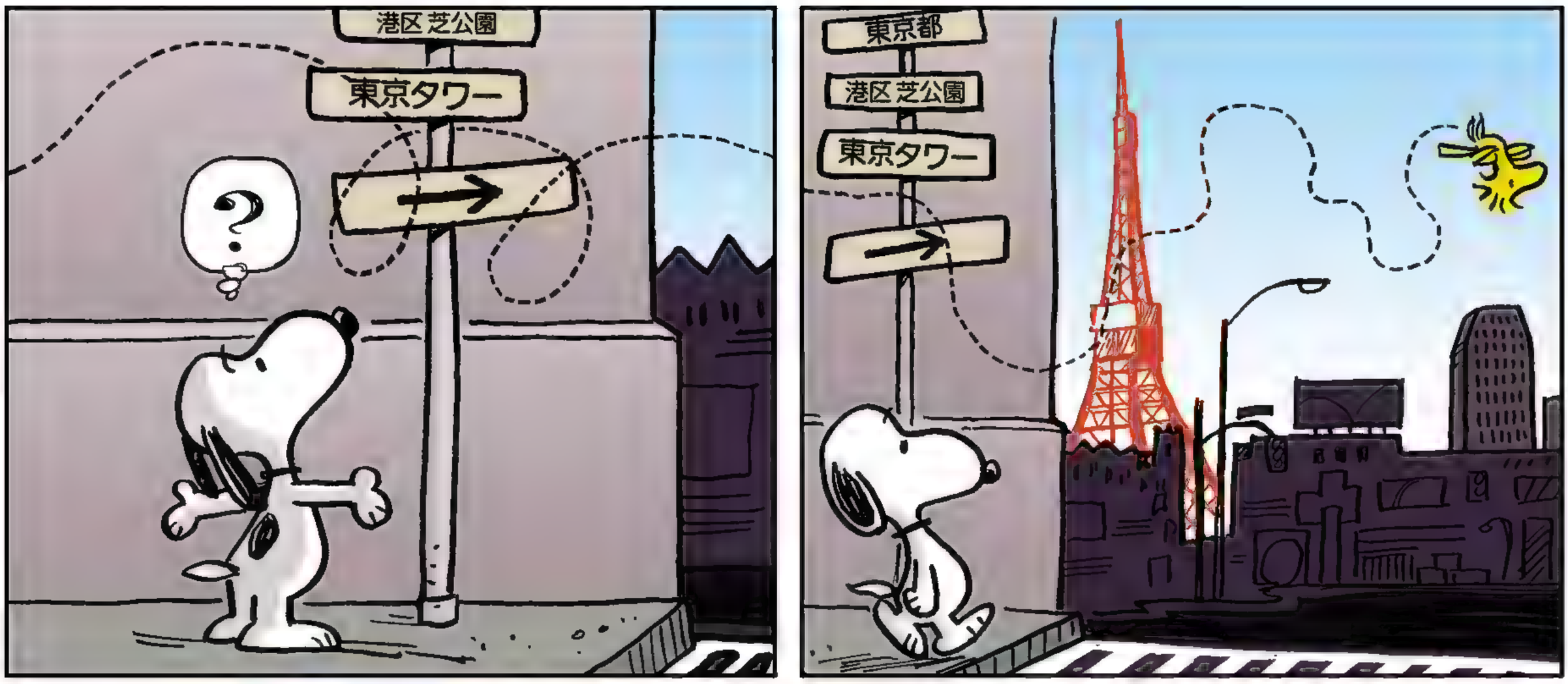
OOOOOOOOO

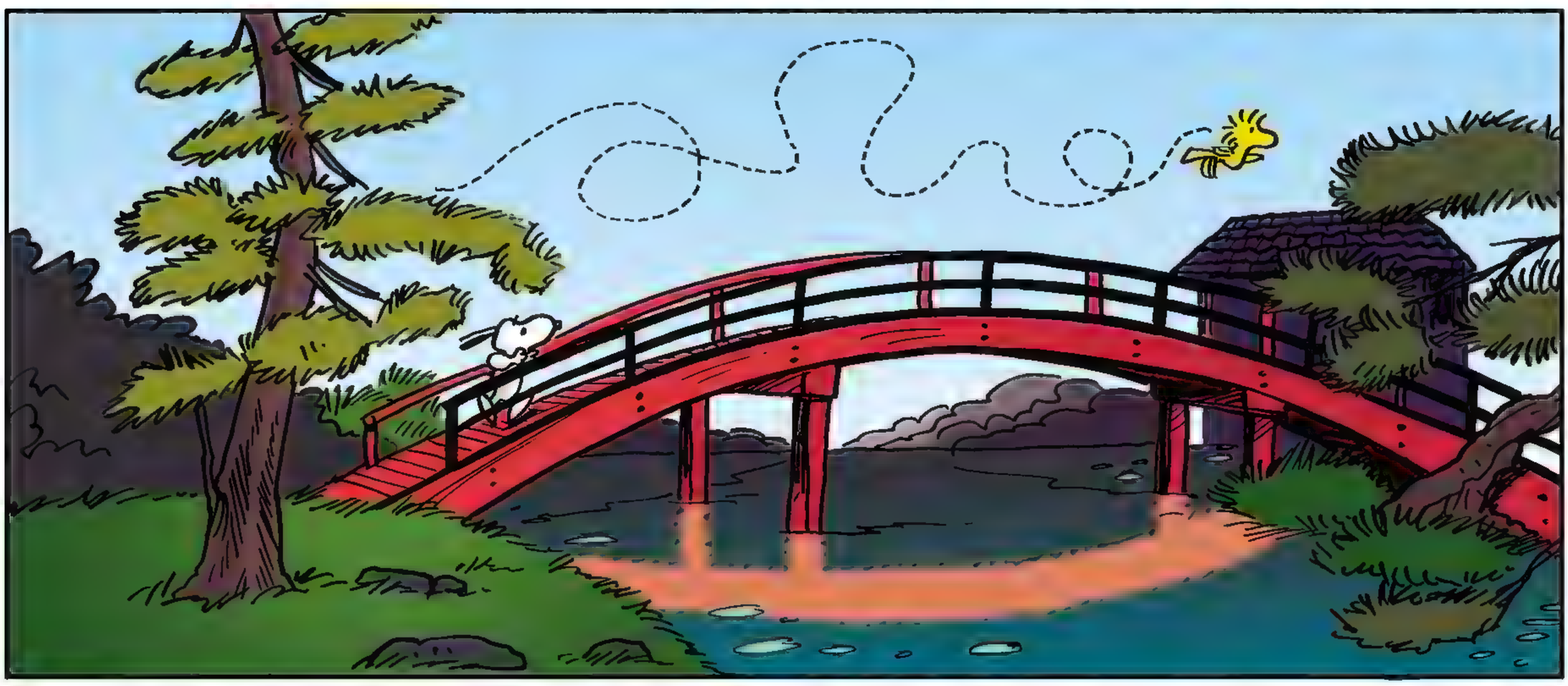
THIS ONE SEEMS TO NEED A GOOD HOME. BESIDES, I THINK IT NEEDS ME.

C

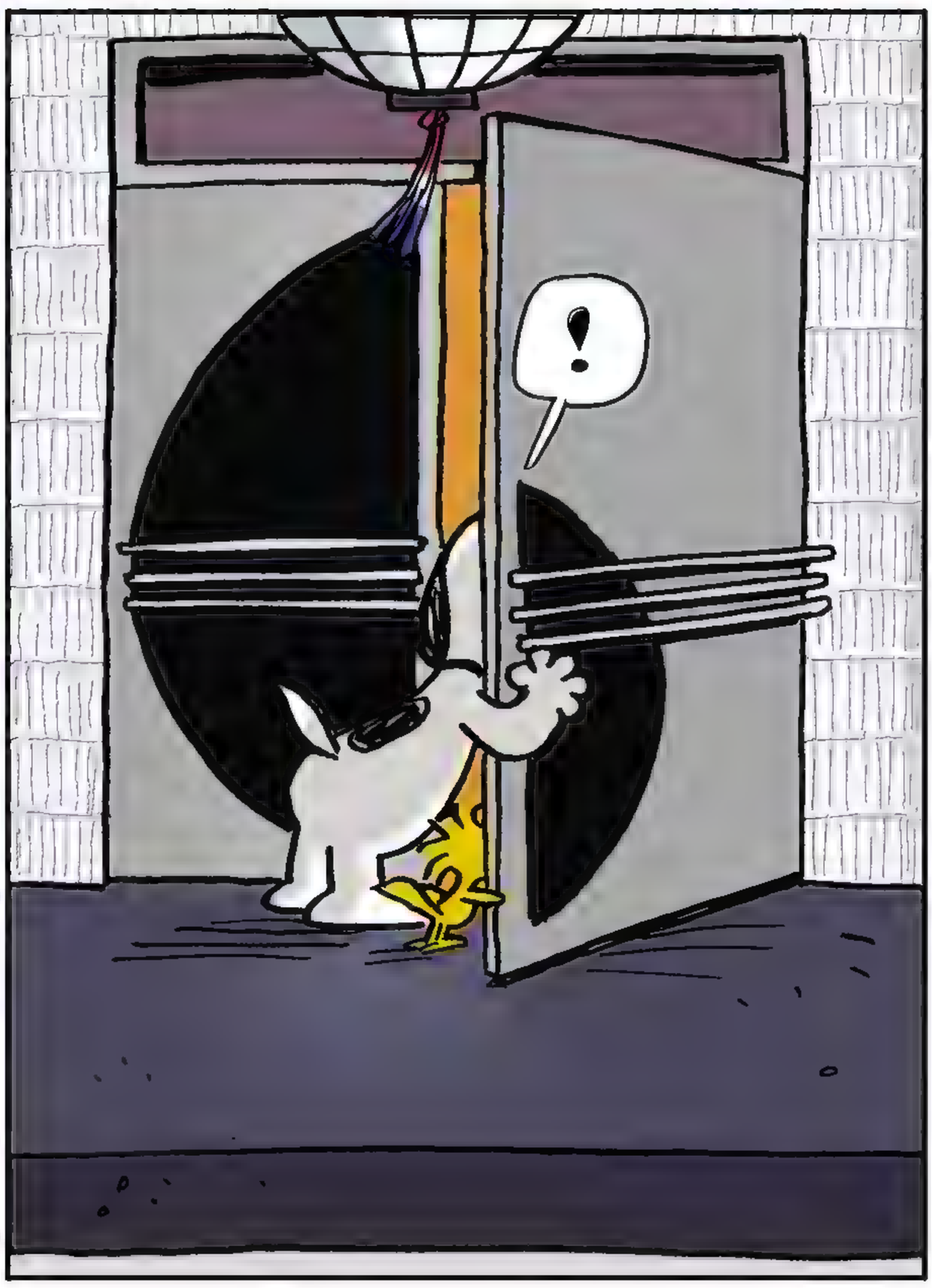
(•C•)


THESE TREES ARE IN THE **SAIKEI** FORM. **TOSHIO KAWAMOTO** DEVELOPED THE SAIKEI FORM OF BONSAI. HE MADE "LIVING LANDSCAPES" THAT INCLUDE ELEMENTS LIKE **ROCKS** THAT SUGGEST A LARGER WORLD FOR THESE TREES TO **LIVE** IN.
I GOT A **ROCK!**
MINE'S GOT A **ROCK**, TOO!
HERE'S A **ROCK!**
RATS...I **DIDN'T** GET A ROCK.


港区芝公園
東京タワー
?
東京都
港区芝公園
東京タワー






!

HAHAHAHA!

HA HA HA!

HEE!
HEE!
HEE!
HEE!

clap!

STOMP
STOMP

toss

SMACK!

CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP

OOF!

Thump!
Thump!
Thump!

ROWF!

GROWF!

YAWN!

Shove

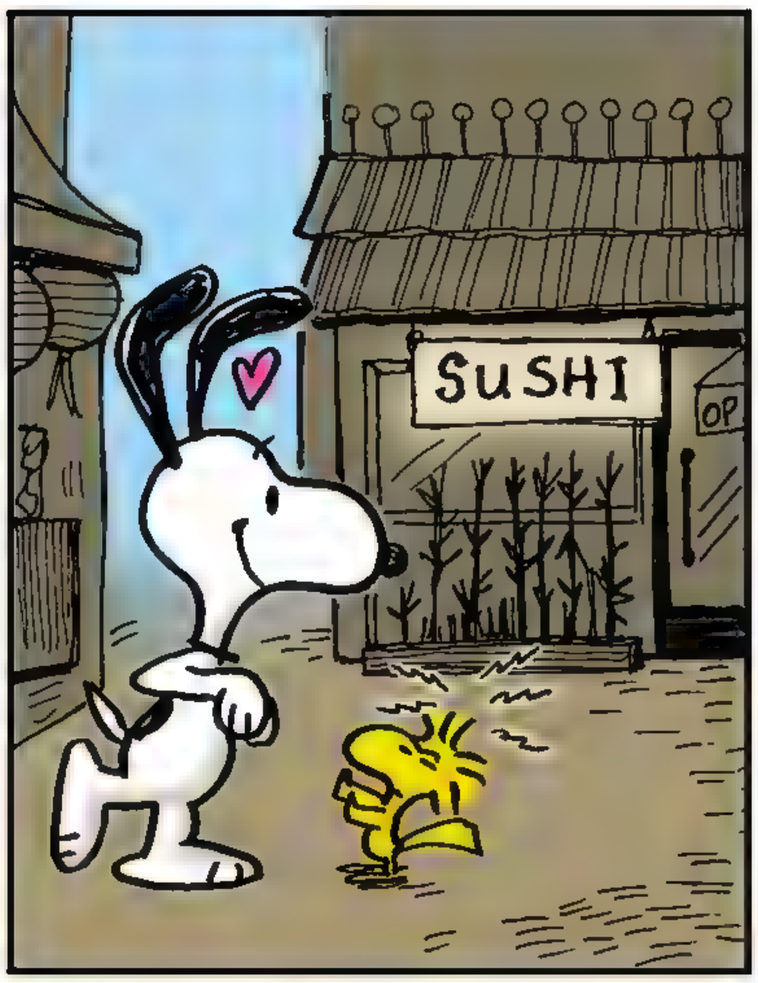
tink!

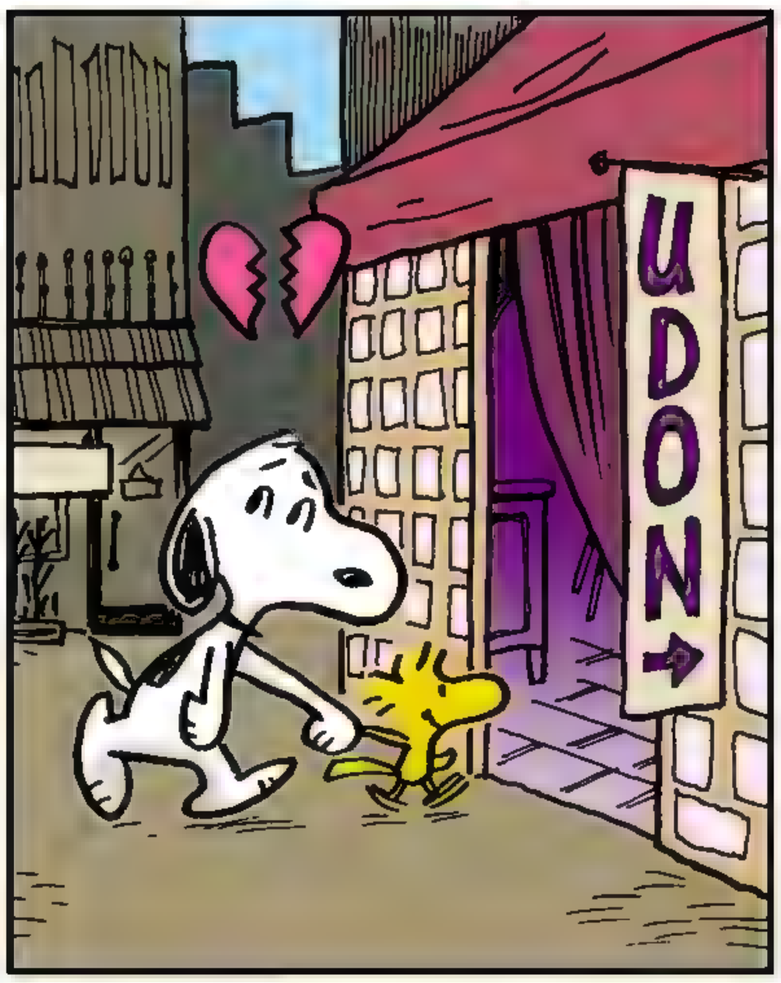
HAHA
HAHA

SMAK!

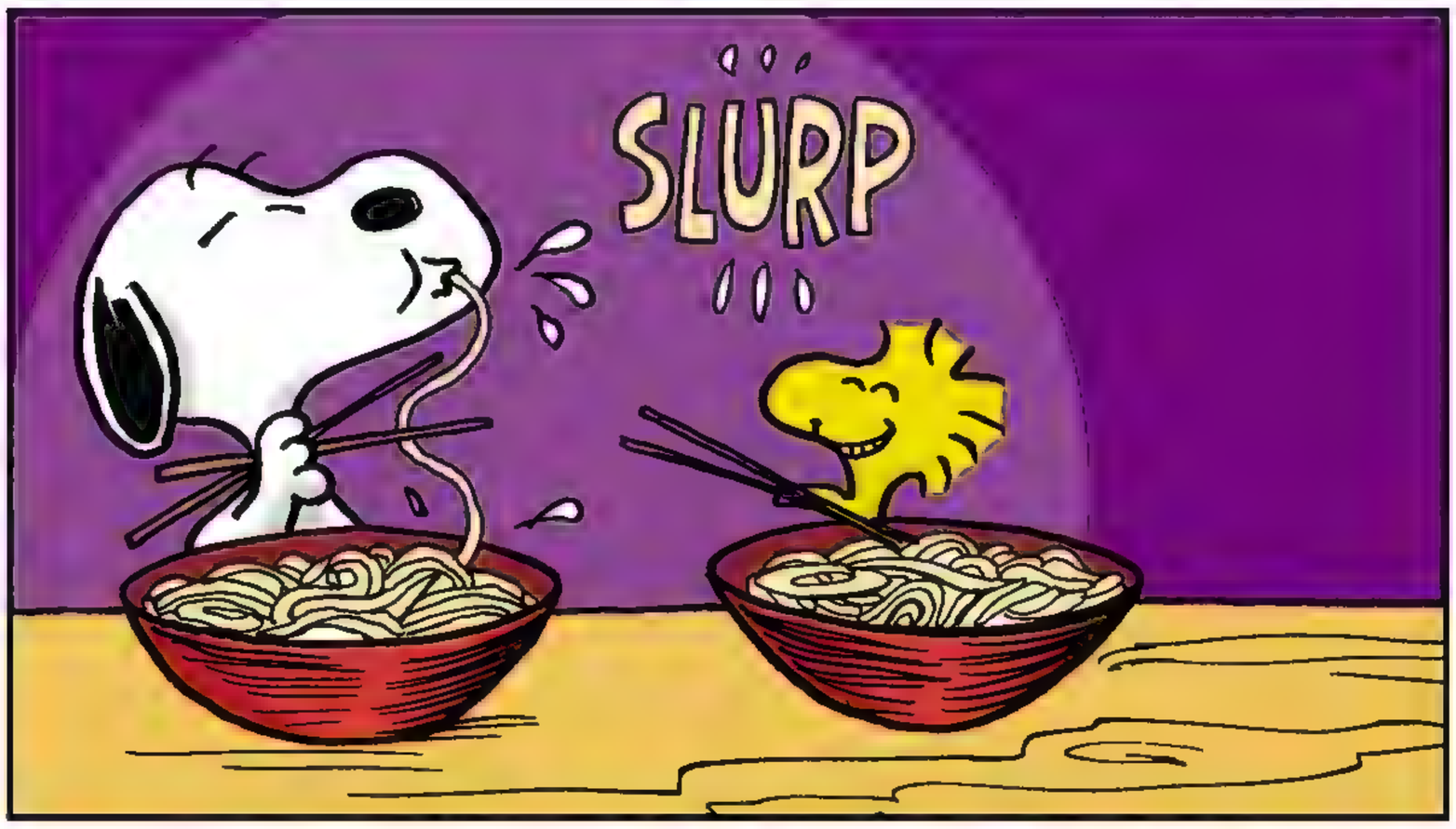
THIS IS THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART, HOME TO SOME OF **HOKUSAI'S** FAMOUS WOODBLOCK PRINTS!




SUSHI
OP


UDON




SLURP






SLURP
SLUP
SLURP


mmm!

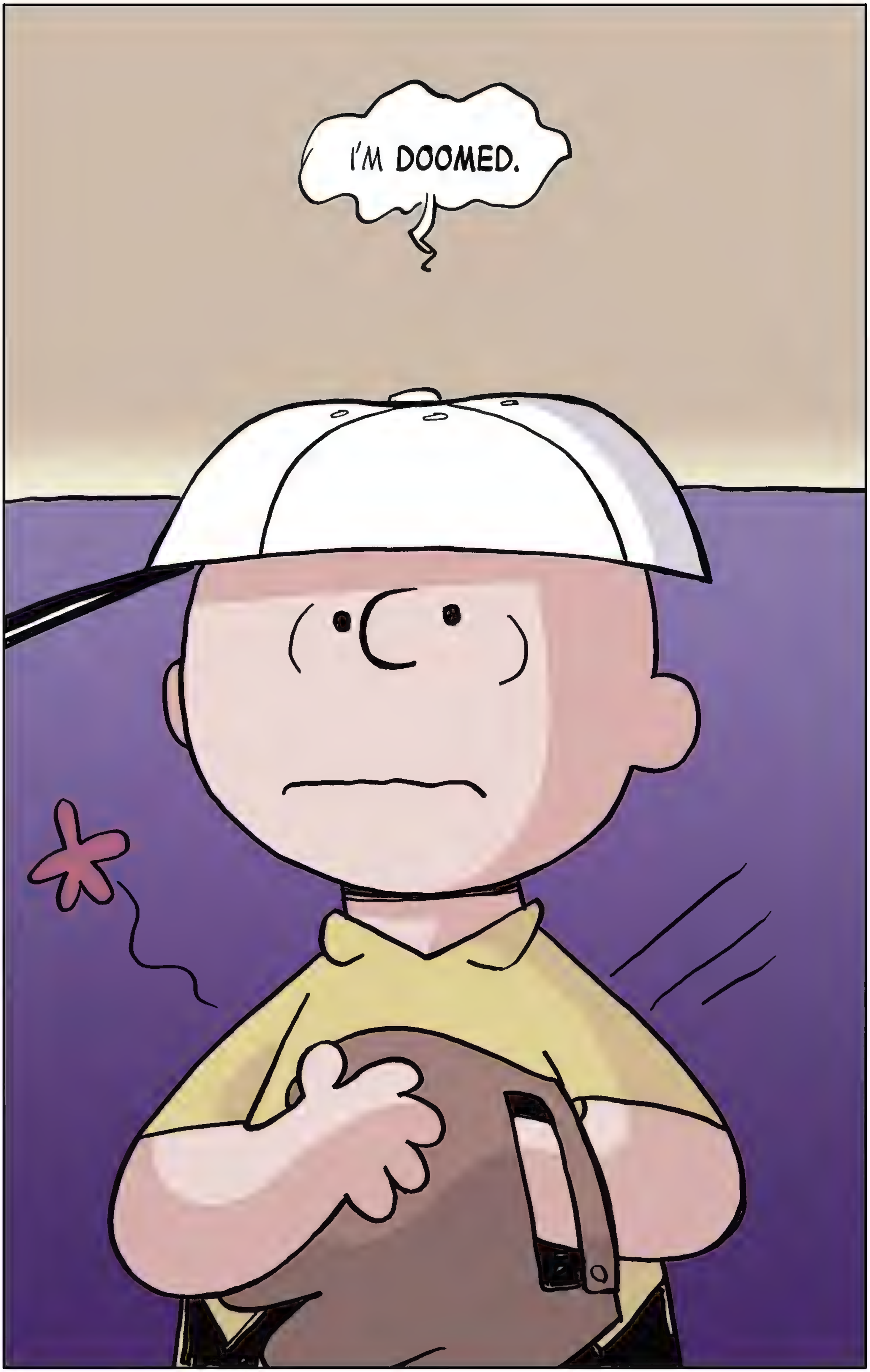

HOP!
gasp!

SCHOOL BUS

YOU KNOW, LINUS, I THINK SIGHT-SEEING HELPED ME A LOT. I'M NOT FEELING SO WORRIED ABOUT LOSING ANYMORE. I'M **LOOSE** AND **RELAXED.** IN FACT, I THINK WE'VE REALLY GOT A CHANCE TO **WIN** THIS THING!!

IN JAPANESE CULTURE IF A PERSON FAILS, HE NOT ONLY SHAMES **HIMSELF** BUT HIS **ENTIRE** FAMILY AND **ALL** OF HIS ANCESTORS.

JAPAN


I'M DOOMED.

LET'S GO, LET'S GO. EVERYBODY OFF THE BUS. THE OTHER TEAM'S ALREADY ON THE FIELD!

DON'T LOOK NOW, CHUCK, BUT I THINK THAT'S **JOSE PETERSON** ON THE **OTHER** TEAM!

HEY, JOSE! IT'S AGAINST THE RULES TO PLAY AS A **RINGER!**

CAN YOU BELIEVE THE **NERVE** OF THAT TEAM TO BRING ON A RINGER?

UGH!!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, CHARLIE BROWN?

WELL, LUCY, I'M WORRIED THAT THE JAPANESE TEAM IS GOING TO **POUND** US INTO THE GROUND. I HAVE A FEELING WE MAY **LOSE** LIKE NO OTHER TEAM HAS **EVER** LOST BEFORE. I THINK I MAY END UP BEING THE **LAUGHING STOCK** OF THE WHOLE **WORLD.**

YOU'RE TAKING THIS WHOLE **BASEBALL THING** TOO SERIOUSLY, CHARLIE BROWN. IT'S NOT LIKE **LOSING** THIS GAME WILL MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IN HOW EVERYONE FEELS ABOUT YOU. AND FOR THAT MATTER, **WINNING** THIS GAME WON'T CHANGE ANYONE'S MIND EITHER!

WIN OR LOSE, YOU'LL **ALWAYS** BE A **BLOCKHEAD** TO US!

SIGH

STRIKE ONE!

STRIKE TWO!

STRIKE THREE!

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL, LINUS! ATTA BOY!

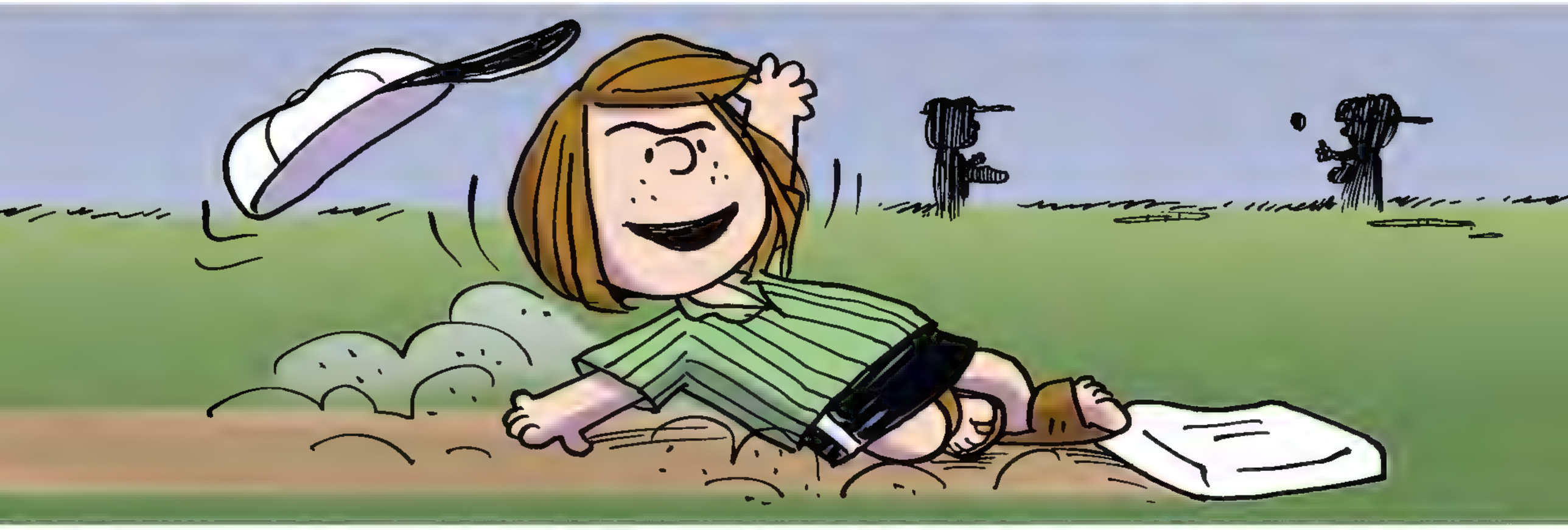
KLUNK!

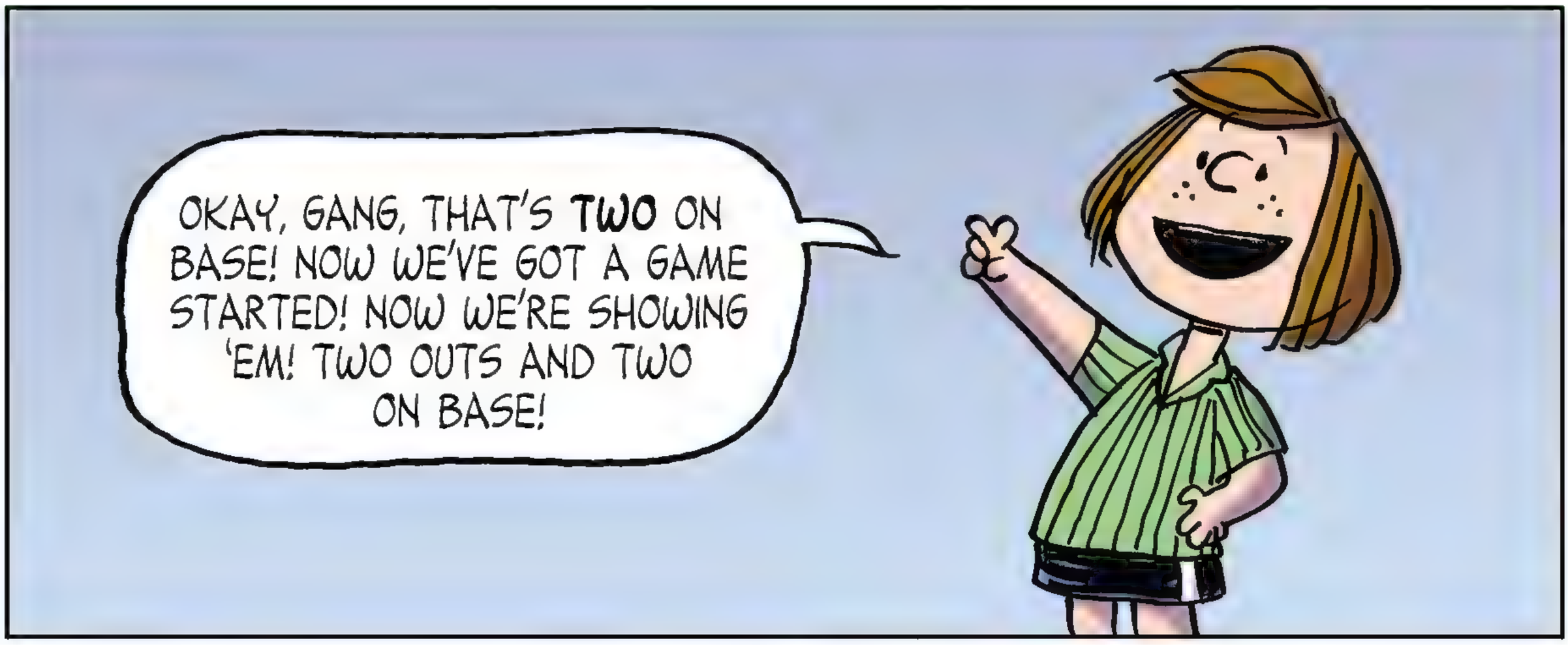
OW!

WAY TO GET ON **BASE**, LINUS! THAT'S THE STUFF!


STRIKE
ONE!
STRIKE
TWO!
STRIKE
THREE!


NO SWEAT, SCHROEDER, WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME! NOW LET'S SEE IF THIS PITCHER CAN THROW THE **HEAT!**
POW!




OKAY, GANG, THAT'S **TWO** ON BASE! NOW WE'VE GOT A GAME STARTED! NOW WE'RE SHOWING 'EM! TWO OUTS AND TWO ON BASE!

fwish swish

SWIP! SWIP!

STRIKE ONE!

STRIKE TWO!

SLASH!

RUN, SNOOPY! RUN!

OKAY...I'M UP..THE BASES ARE LOADED AND WE'VE GOT **TWO** OUTS...

IT'S ALL UP TO **ME** NOW...

STRIKE ONE!

RATS.

ball one!

GOOD EYE. GOOD EYE...

ball two!

GEE--I'M DOING **GREAT!**

STRIKE TWO!

HEY, KID, WHO TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE A BALL PLAYER?

BOO! BOO!! GET OFF THE FIELD, KID!

WE CAN DO WITHOUT YOUR KIND!

HAHAHAHA! BOO!

HISS!

WAIT A MINUTE...I'M IN **JAPAN** AND I'M BEING HECKLED IN **ENGLISH?**

BOO!

GET LOST, KID! YOU **STINK!**

GO BACK TO **LITTLE LEAGUE--**

THE **MAJORS** DON'T WANT YOU!

BOO! HISS!

I KNOW THAT **VOICE!**

WHERE'D YOU LEARN TO PLAY BALL, KID? IN **KINDERGARTEN?!**

HEY BATTER BATT--

SALLY!

WHAT? DID YOU STRIKE OUT **ALREADY?**

GOOD GRIEF...MY **OWN SISTER..!**

ALL RIGHT...STAY **FOCUSED**, KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL--

ball three!

HAHA! IT'S A FULL COUNT! THIS IS MY **BIG** CHANCE!

I'LL SHOW EVERYONE WHY THE **PRESIDENT** PICKED **MY** TEAM FOR TOKYO!

I CAN BE THE HERO FOR MY **WHOLE** TEAM-- FOR MY ENTIRE **COUNTRY!**

I JUST HAVE TO GET **ONE** HIT AND WE'LL BE ON OUR **WAY!**

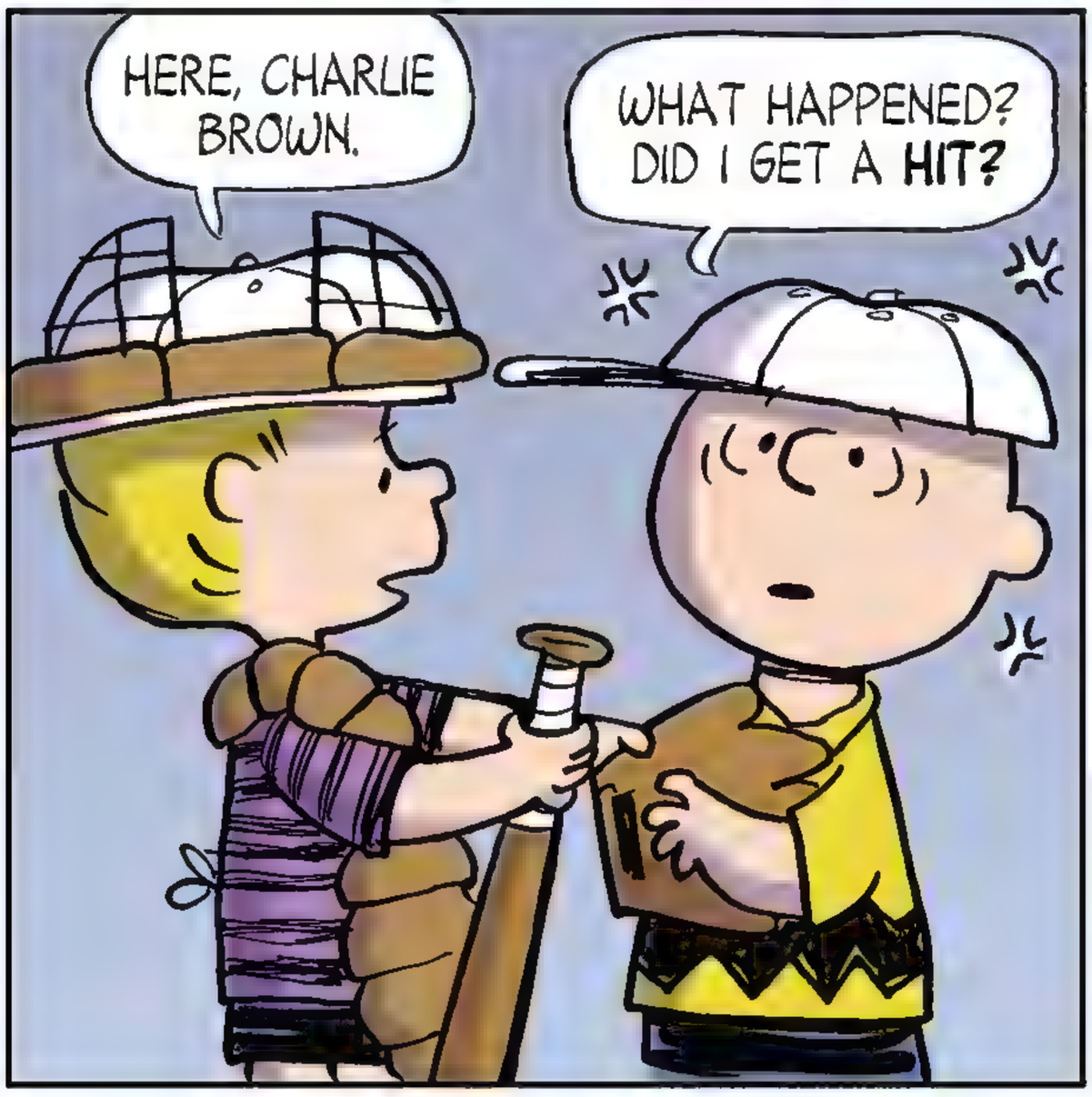
THEY'LL **CARRY** ME ON THEIR SHOULDERS AS WE ROUND THE **BASES!**

STRIKE THREE!

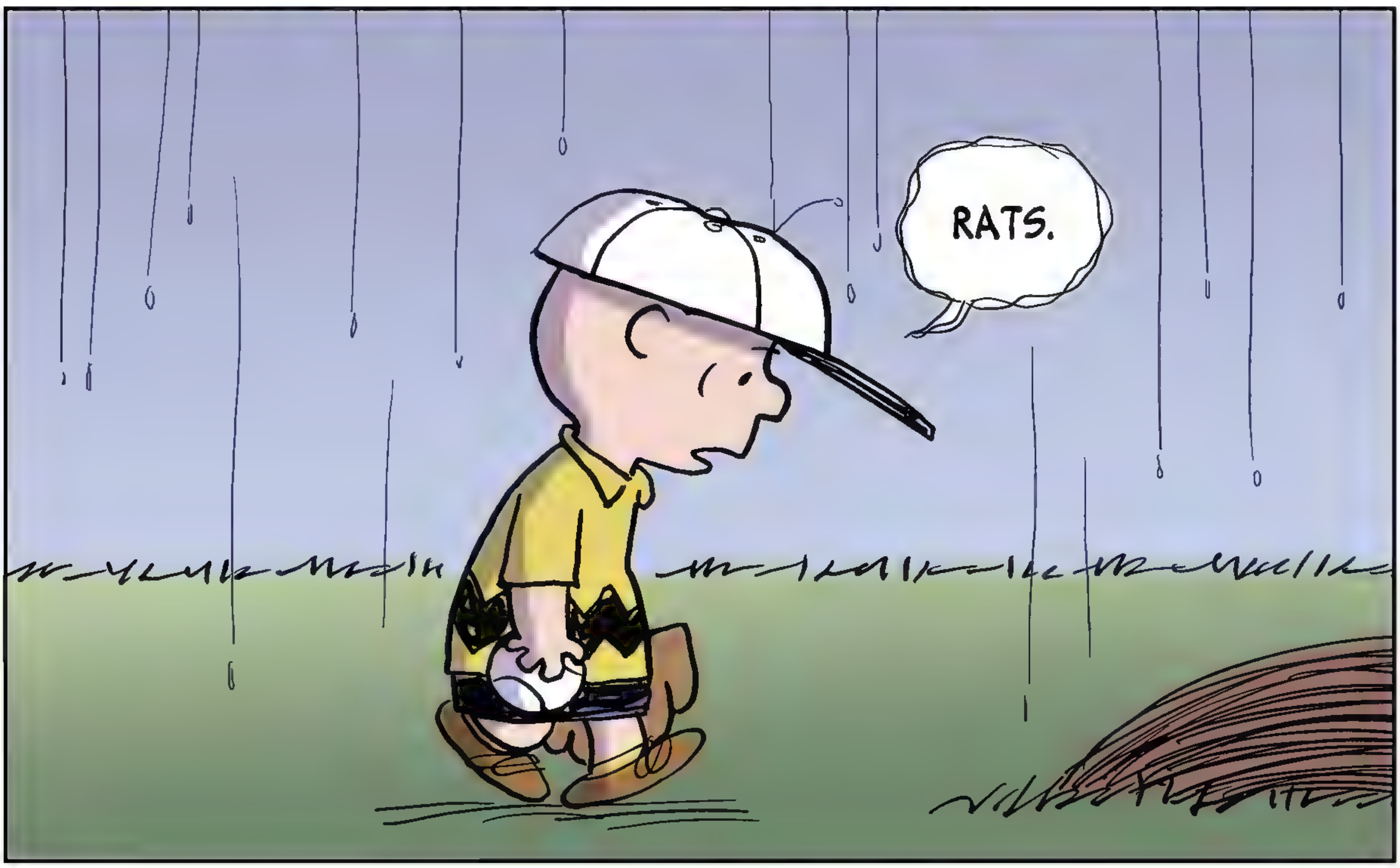
EVERYONE WILL **CHEER** AND CALL MY **NAME!**

AND THE PRESIDENT WILL NAME A **SCHOOL** AFTER ME!


ALL I HAVE TO DO IS GET ONE HIT AND--


HERE, CHARLIE BROWN.
WHAT HAPPENED? DID I GET A HIT?


YOU STRUCK OUT. IT'S THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST.


RATS.

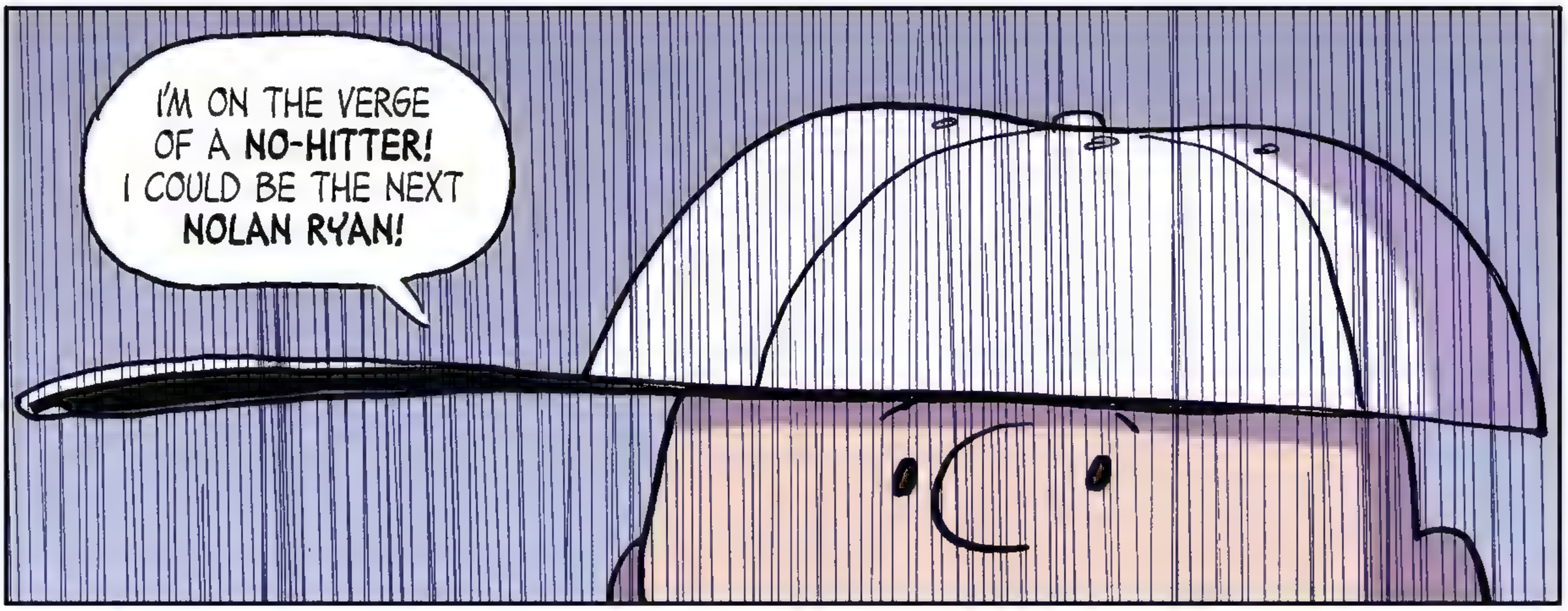
IT'S ALL ON **ME** NOW... UGH. MY **STOMACH** IS KILLING ME.

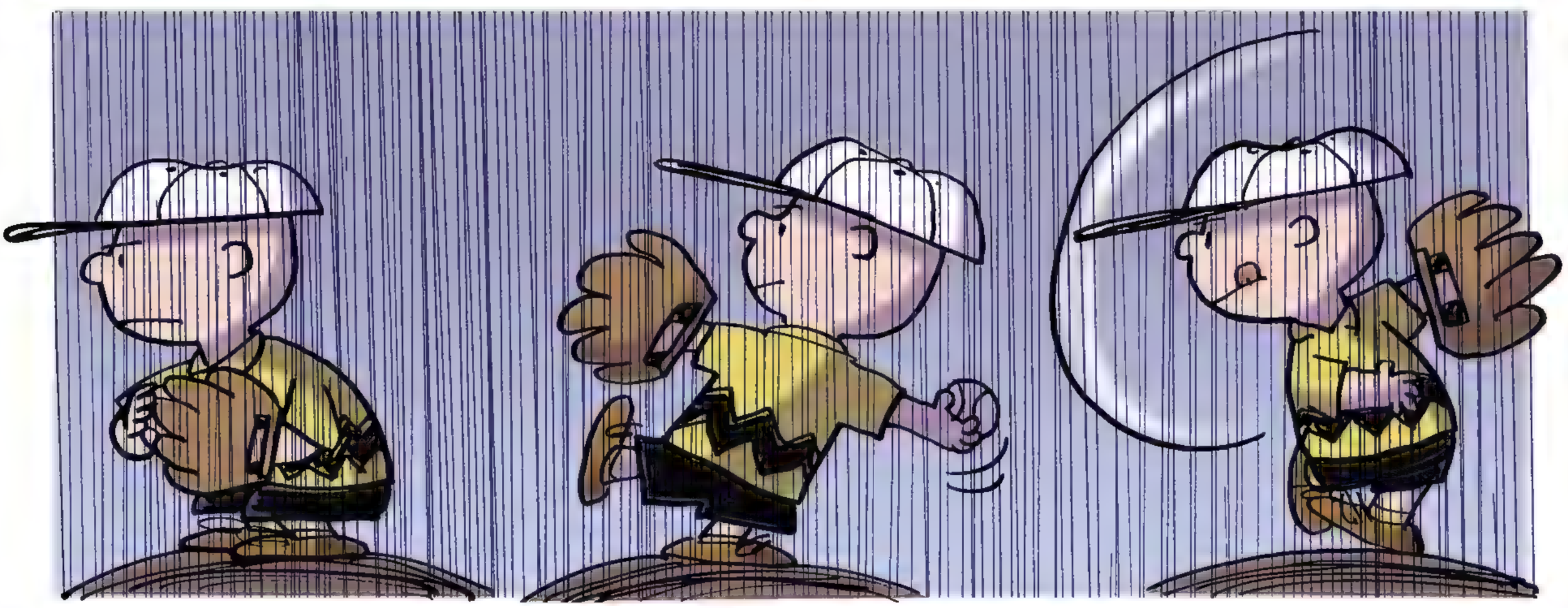
STRIKE ONE!

WOW!

STRIKE TWO!

THIS IS GOING **GREAT!**


I'M ON THE VERGE OF A NO-HITTER! I COULD BE THE NEXT NOLAN RYAN!




POW!
OR NOT.

I CAN'T STAND THIS **RAIN** ANY LONGER. IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU, YOU'LL SAY THAT STUFF THAT MAKES IT STOP.

HERE? **NOW?** IN FRONT OF ALL THESE **PEOPLE?**

GULP!

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY. COME AGAIN SOME OTHER DAY!

IT MUST ONLY WORK ON **AMERICAN** CLOUDS.

WHY DO I HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING **MYSELF?**

LISTEN UP RAIN! I'LL GIVE YOU **FIVE** GOOD REASONS TO **STOP** RIGHT **NOW!**

ONE...

TWO...

THREE...

FOUR...

FIVE!

JAPANESE WEATHER MUST HAVE A **NON-NEGOTIATION** POLICY.

STRIKE ONE!

CRACK!

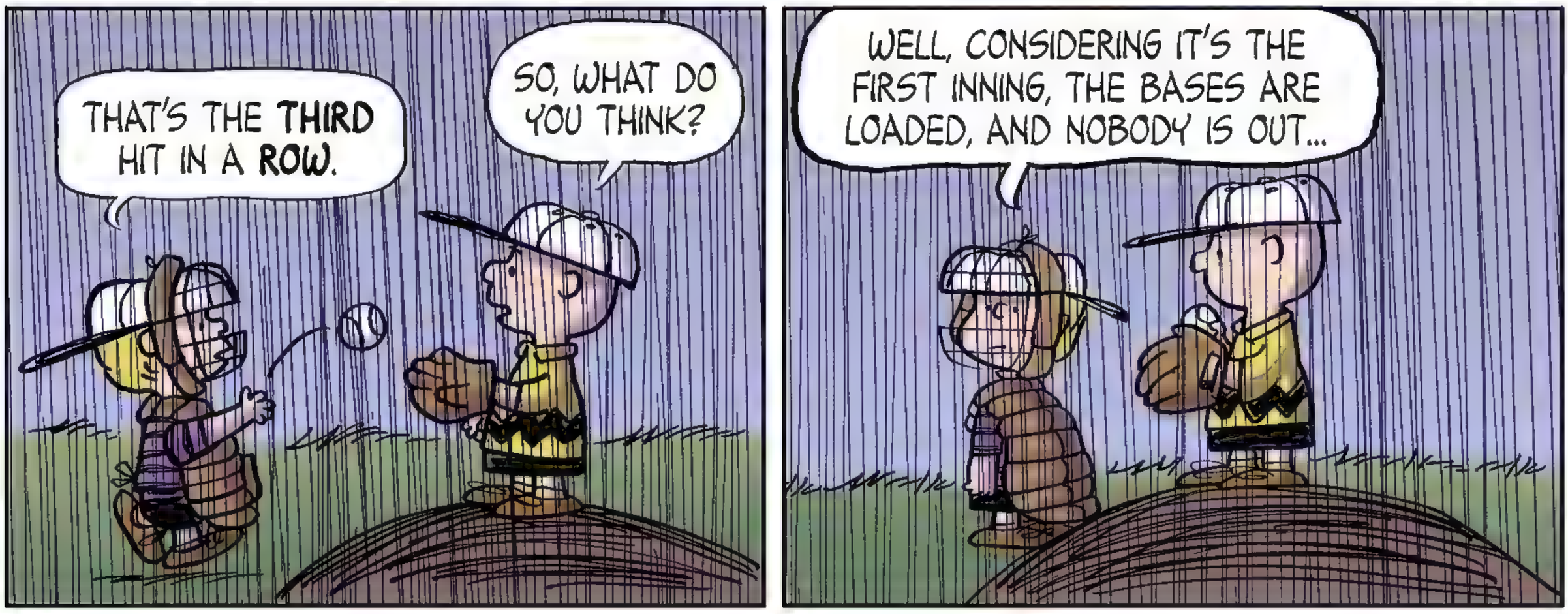
POW!

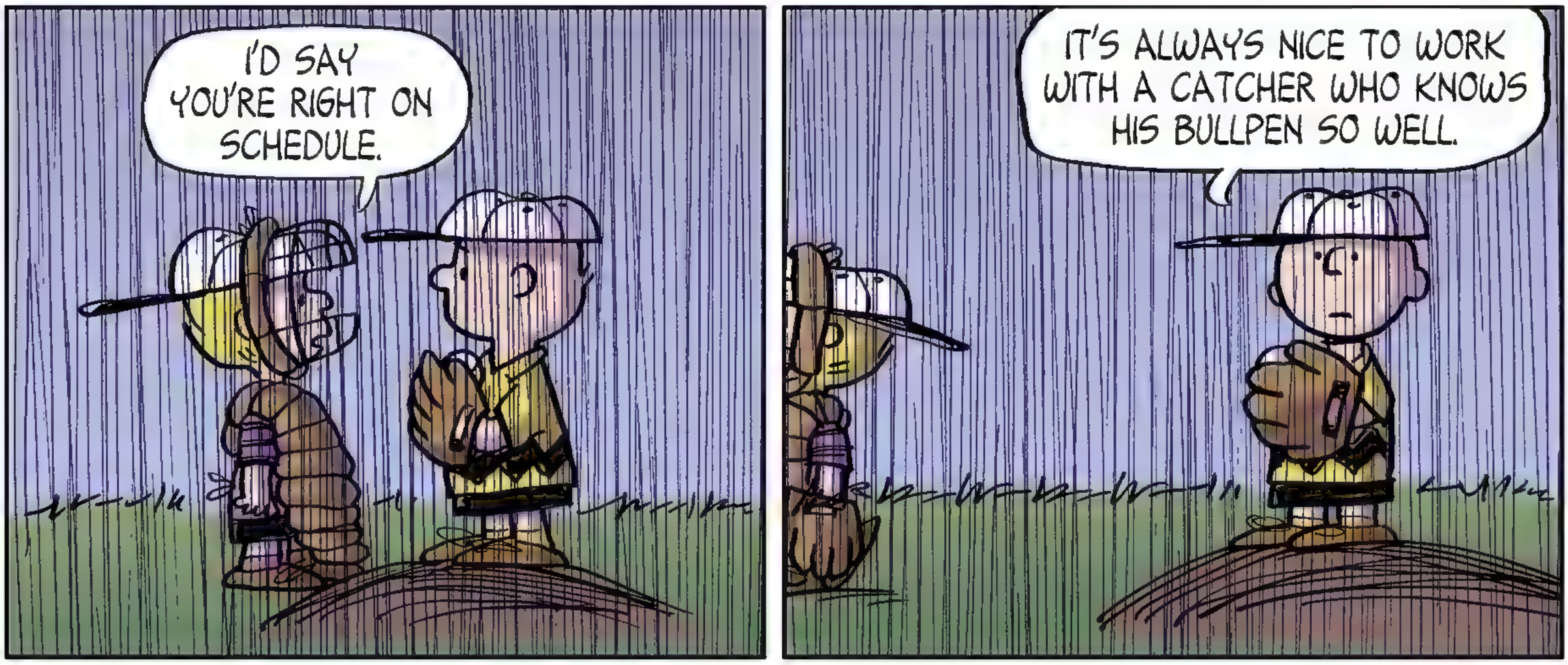
WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD THROW THIS NEXT BATTER? MY **FASTBALL...**

OR MY **CHANGE-UP?**

I THINK THAT LAST LINE DRIVE MUST HAVE HIT YOU IN THE **HEAD.**


WHAP!


THAT'S THE THIRD HIT IN A ROW.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WELL, CONSIDERING IT'S THE FIRST INNING, THE BASES ARE LOADED, AND NOBODY IS OUT...


I'D SAY YOU'RE RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.
IT'S ALWAYS NICE TO WORK WITH A CATCHER WHO KNOWS HIS BULLPEN SO WELL.

I CAN BARELY **SEE** A THING OUT THERE!

IT'S JUST **ME** AND THE **BALL** NOW.

STRIKE!

AHA! I'M GETTING IN THE **ZONE** NOW!

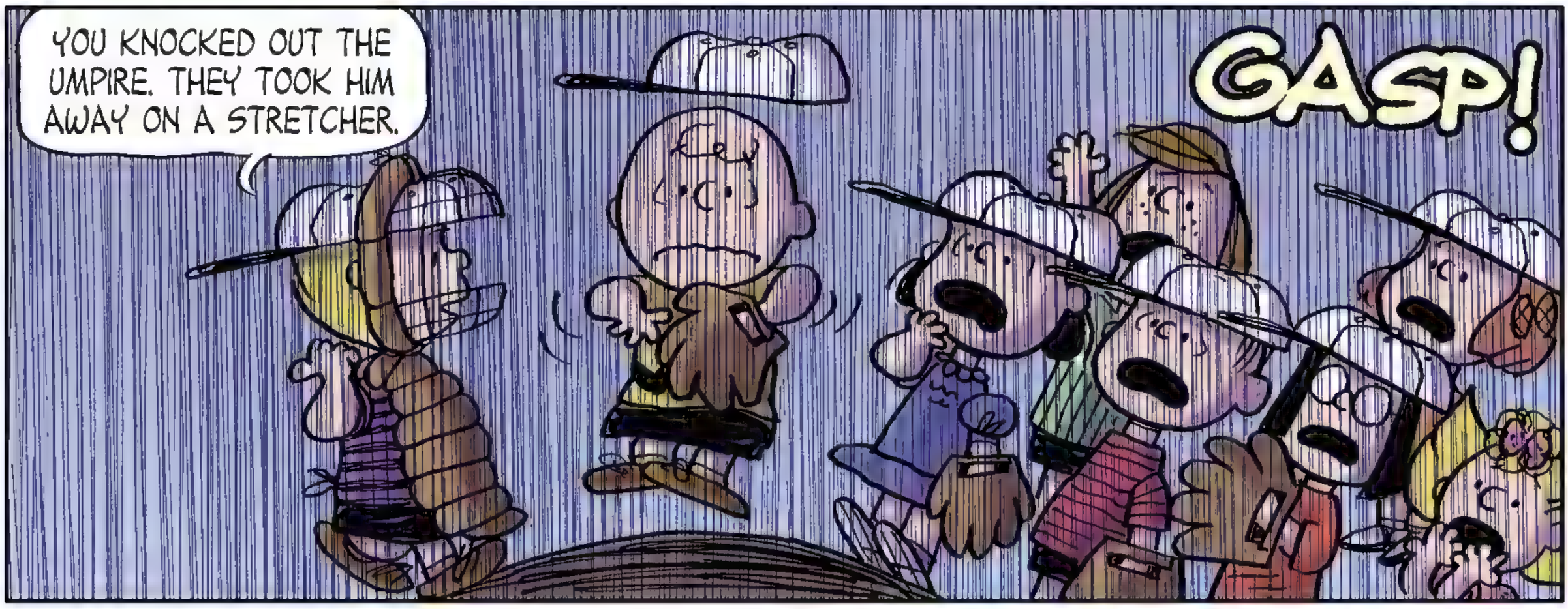
STRIKE!

THIS IS JUST WHAT ALL THE **MAJOR LEAGUE** PITCHERS TALK ABOUT...

WHEN THEY'RE REALLY ON THEIR GAME IT'S JUST **THEM** ON THE MOUND, IN COMPLETE **STILLNESS**...TIME STOPS-- **EVERYTHING** STOPS. IT'S JUST **THEM** AND THE **BALL.**

WHAT'S THE HOLD-UP, CHUCK?


HERE COMES SCHROEDER. HE'LL KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.


YOU KNOCKED OUT THE UMPIRE. THEY TOOK HIM AWAY ON A STRETCHER.
GASP!


THEN THEY CALLED THE GAME ON ACCOUNT OF ALL THE **RAIN.**
AAUGH!

I'VE NEVER BEEN SO **HUMILIATED** IN ALL MY LIFE!

YOU CAN'T DO **ANYTHING** RIGHT, CHARLIE BROWN!

I **KNEW** THIS WOULD HAPPEN WITH **CHARLIE BROWN** IN CHARGE!

WE CAME ALL THE WAY TO TOKYO FOR **THIS?!**

WE'LL BE THE **LAUGHING STOCK** OF AMERICA BECAUSE OF **YOU!**

OF ALL THE **BLOCKHEADED** THINGS TO DO, THIS IS THE **WORST!**



I OUGHTA **SLUG** YOU!

YOU TOOK US **NINE MILLION** MILES FROM HOME FOR NOTHING!

NOTHING!

NO **TROPHIES!** NO PICTURES ON **BUBBLEGUM CARDS!** NO BIG **CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENT** DEALS!

NOTHING!

YOU'RE NOTHING, CHARLIE BROWN!

SIGH.

YOU **BLOCKHEAD!** WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU **SMILING** ABOUT?!


WE DIDN'T LOSE.
I WAS REALLY AFRAID THAT WE WOULD BE POUNDED INTO THE GROUND BY THIS TEAM, BUT WE WEREN'T. WE DIDN'T LOSE.
THAT'S KIND OF TRUE, CHARLIE BROWN!

WE DIDN'T LOSE.

CHUCK'S RIGHT! WE **DIDN'T** LOSE!

AS A MATTER OF FACT, HERE IN **JAPAN**...

WE'RE UNDEFEATED!

HOORAY FOR CHARLIE BROWN!

BEEP BEEP

ONE WEEK LATER...

IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME.

YES, BUT TRAVEL MAKES A PERSON **GROW!**

NO ONE IS REALLY EDUCATED WHO HAS NOT SEEN NEW LANDS AND MET NEW PEOPLE.

TRAVEL ADDS A TOUCH OF **MATURITY.**

YOU'RE STILL PRETTY HAPPY ABOUT THAT GAME BEING RAINED OUT, AREN'T YOU?

I COULD JUST **CRY!**



THE END


TRANS BUS


SCHULZ

BEHIND-THE-SCENES

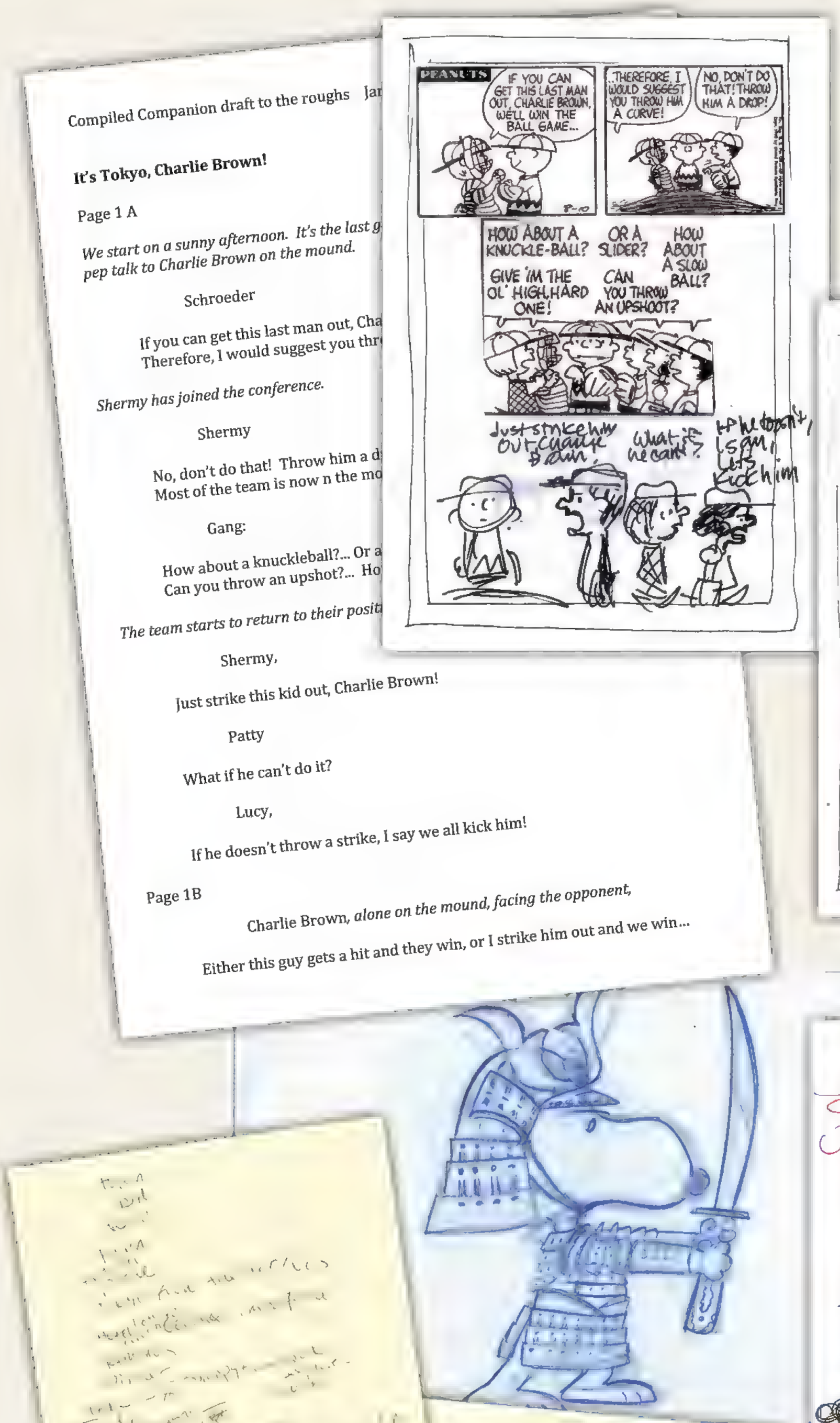
IT'S TOKYO, CHARLIE BROWN!





From Strip to Script...

To help ground the new story in Schulz's voice right from the start, the opening sequence of the book was largely built from original PEANUTS comic strips.



Compiled Companion draft to the roughs Jar

It's Tokyo, Charlie Brown!

Page 1 A

We start on a sunny afternoon. It's the last g
pep talk to Charlie Brown on the mound.

Schroeder

If you can get this last man out, Cha
Therefore, I would suggest you thr

Shermy has joined the conference.

Shermy

No, don't do that! Throw him a d
Most of the team is now n the mo

Gang:

How about a knuckleball?... Or a
Can you throw an upshot?... Ho

The team starts to return to their positi

Shermy,

Just strike this kid out, Charlie Brown!

Patty

What if he can't do it?

Lucy,

If he doesn't throw a strike, I say we all kick him!

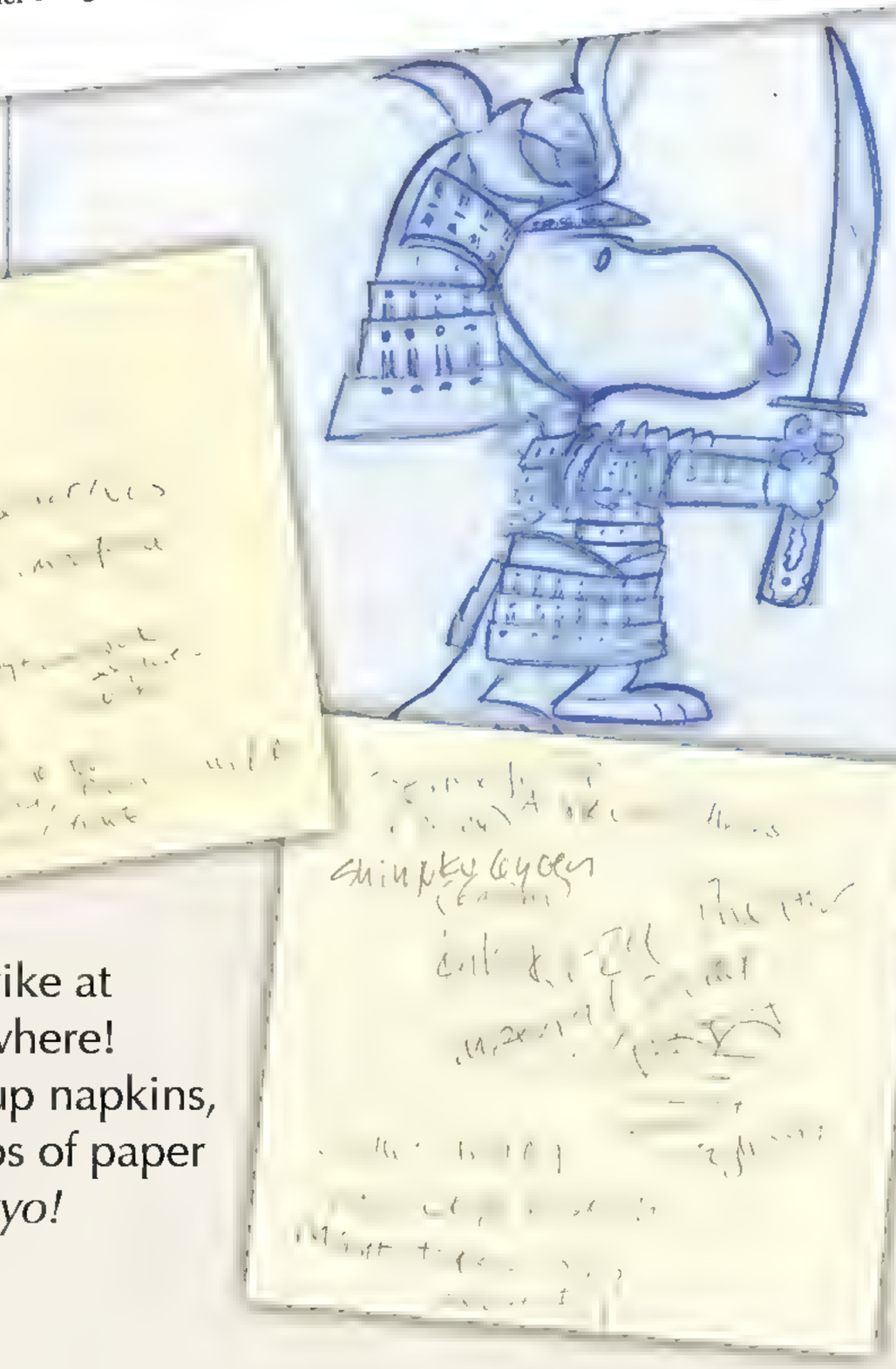
Page 1B

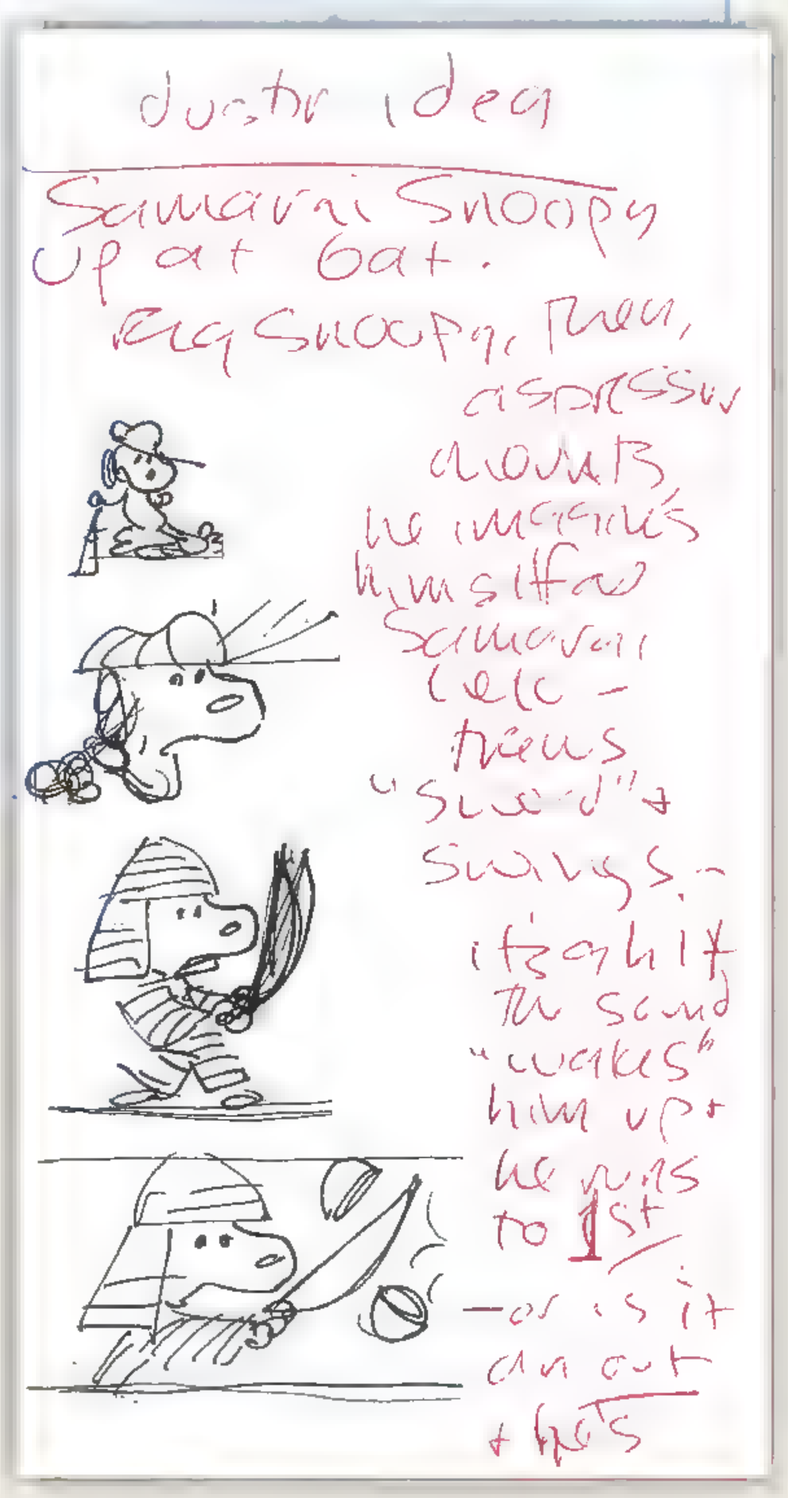
Charlie Brown, *alone on the mound, facing the opponent,*

Either this guy gets a hit and they win, or I strike him out and we win...

PEANUTS
IF YOU CAN GET THIS LAST MAN OUT, CHARLIE BROWN, WE'LL WIN THE BALL GAME...
..THEREFORE, I WOULD SUGGEST YOU THROW HIM A CURVE!
NO, DON'T DO THAT! THROW HIM A DROP!
HOW ABOUT A KNUCKLE-BALL?
OR A SLIDER?
HOW ABOUT A SLOW BALL?
GIVE 'IM THE OL' HIGH-HARD ONE!
CAN YOU THROW AN UPSHOOT?
Just strike him OUT Charlie Brown.
What if he can't?
If he doesn't throw a strike, I say we all kick him
I'M GLAD THE BASEBALL SEASON IS OVER FOR US!
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO HEAR THE WORD 'BASEBALL' ANY MORE! I THINK IF I HEAR THE WORD 'BASEBALL' AGAIN, I'LL SCREAM!
BASEBALL
AAUGH!
A letter for me!
FROM THE PRESIDENT!
ABOUT BASEBALL
AAUGH!!

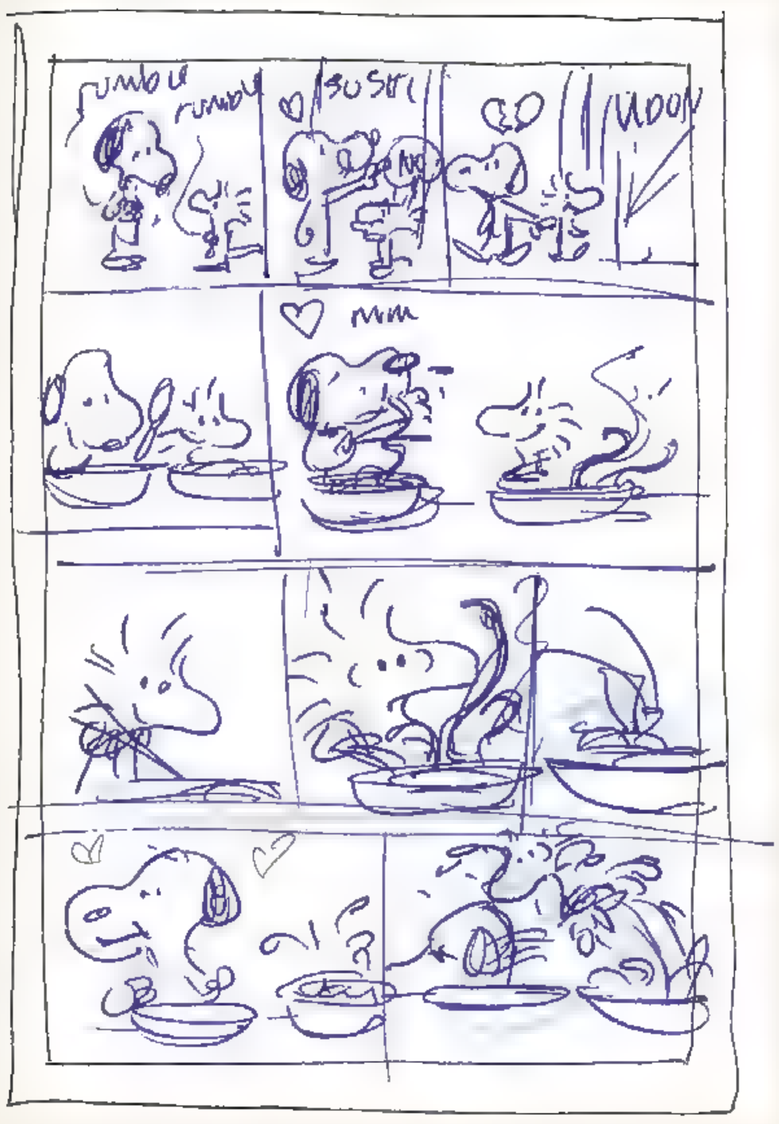
Left & Below:
Vicki Scott's original script followed by thumbnail layouts using Schulz's comic strips.





Inspiration can strike at anytime and anywhere! Vicki Scott filled up napkins, post-its, and scraps of paper with ideas for *Tokyo!*

Snoopy & Woodstock's Adventures in Tokyo...



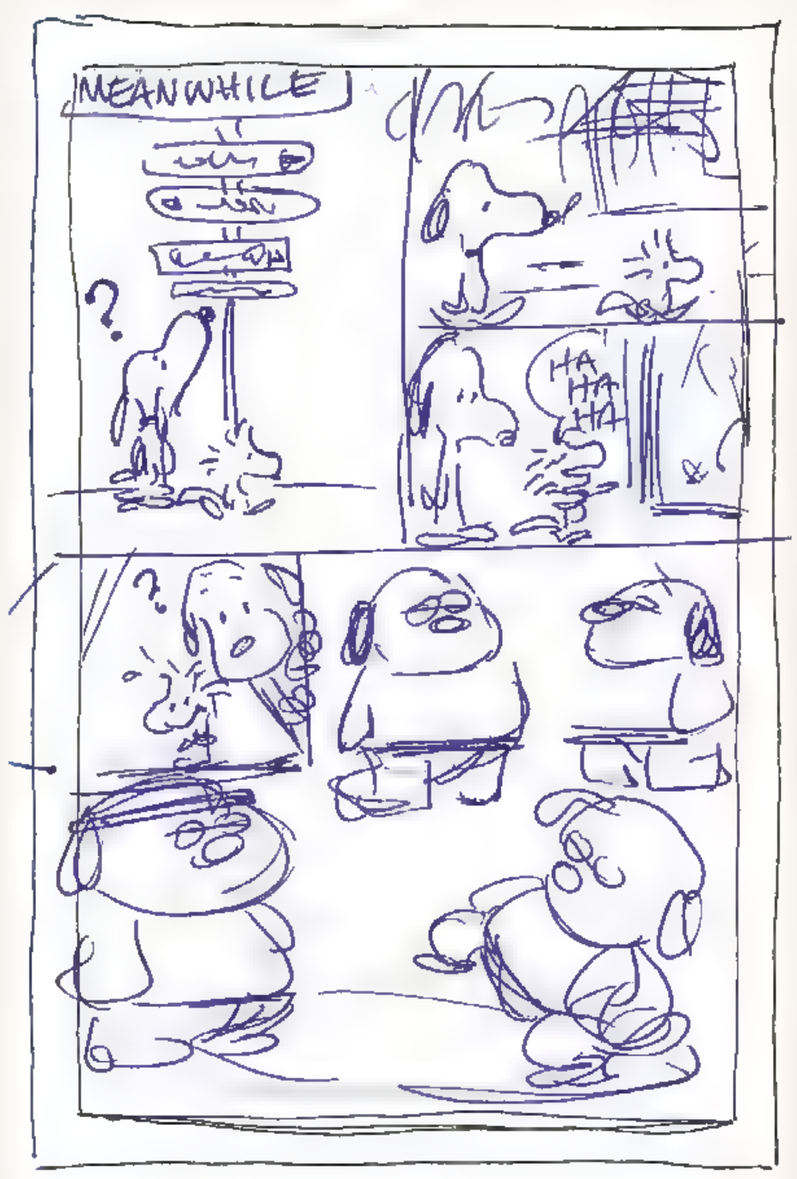
Top & right: A night on the town, thumbnails and full pencils. "It was fun to have poor little Woodstock valiantly battle his food!"

–Vicki Scott



Left & below: The sumo challenge, full pencils and thumbnails. "Snoopy's brother, Olaf was the perfect build for Snoopy's sumo wrestling opponent. It was lots of fun to draw!"

–Vicki Scott

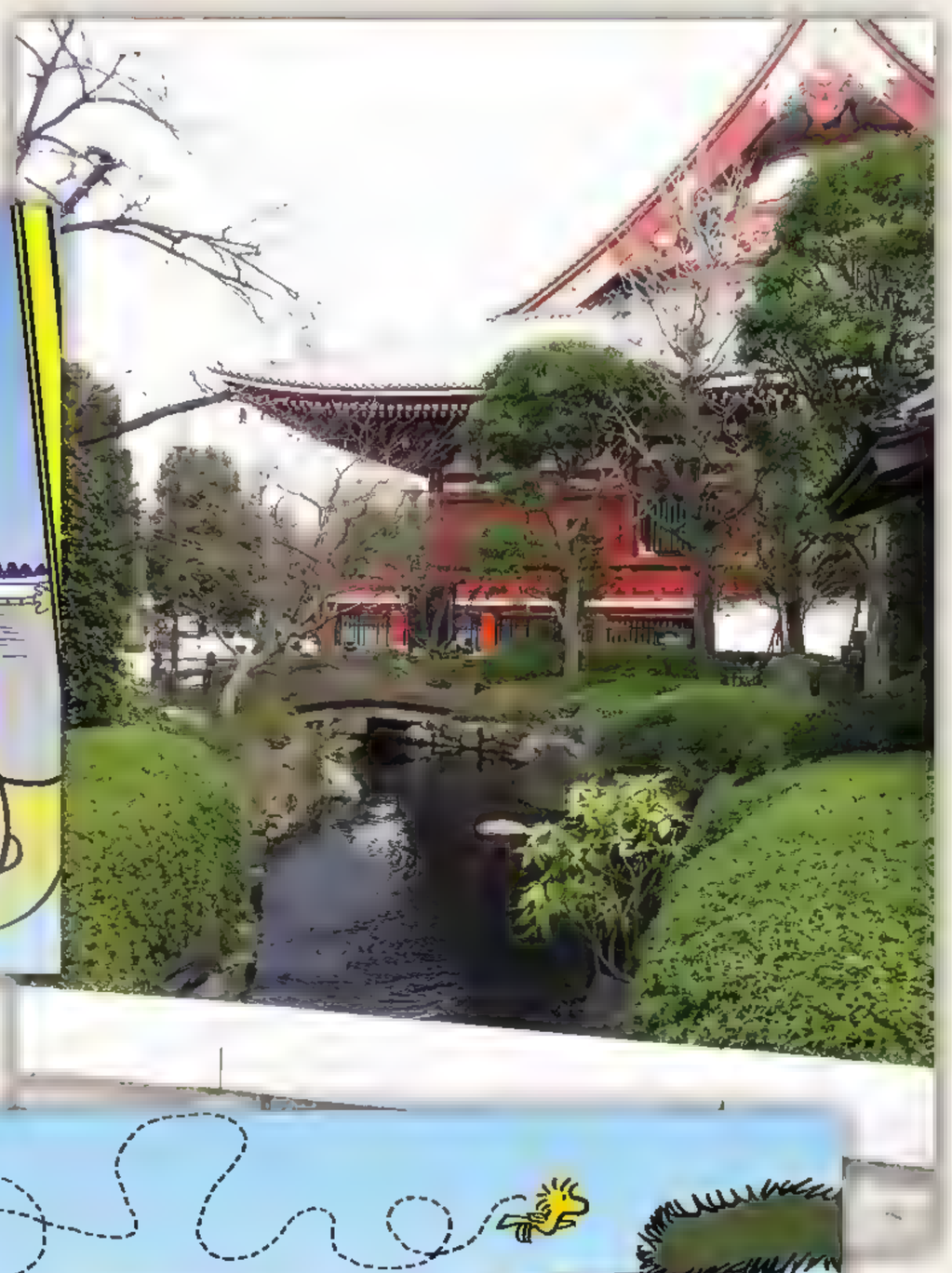


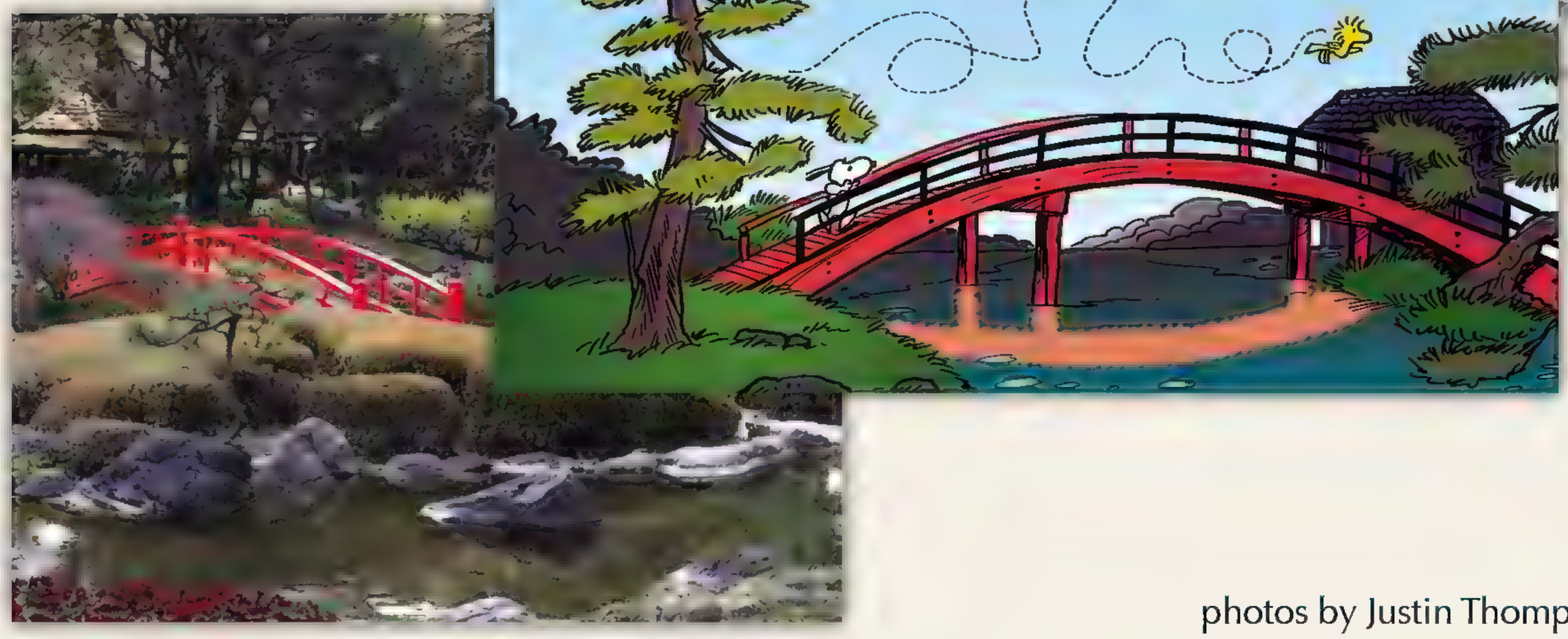
Research & Reference

Believe it or not, writer and artist Vicki Scott has yet to travel to Japan, but that didn't stop her from writing a well-researched travelogue. Vicki also had help from her Schulz Studio mates, many of whom have been to Japan and supplied lots of photo reference for her. Below are the photos and the scenes they inspired for *It's Tokyo, Charlie Brown!*









photos by Justin Thompson

Gallery

These limited edition postcards (as well as "Umbrella Girls" as seen on page 102) were created especially for the San Diego Comic-Con 2012 announcement of *It's Tokyo, Charlie Brown!*





Conversation with the Creators, Vicki Scott and Paige Braddock

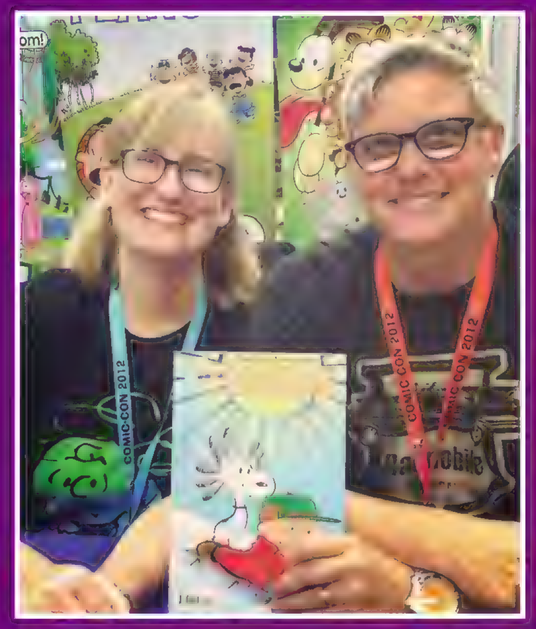


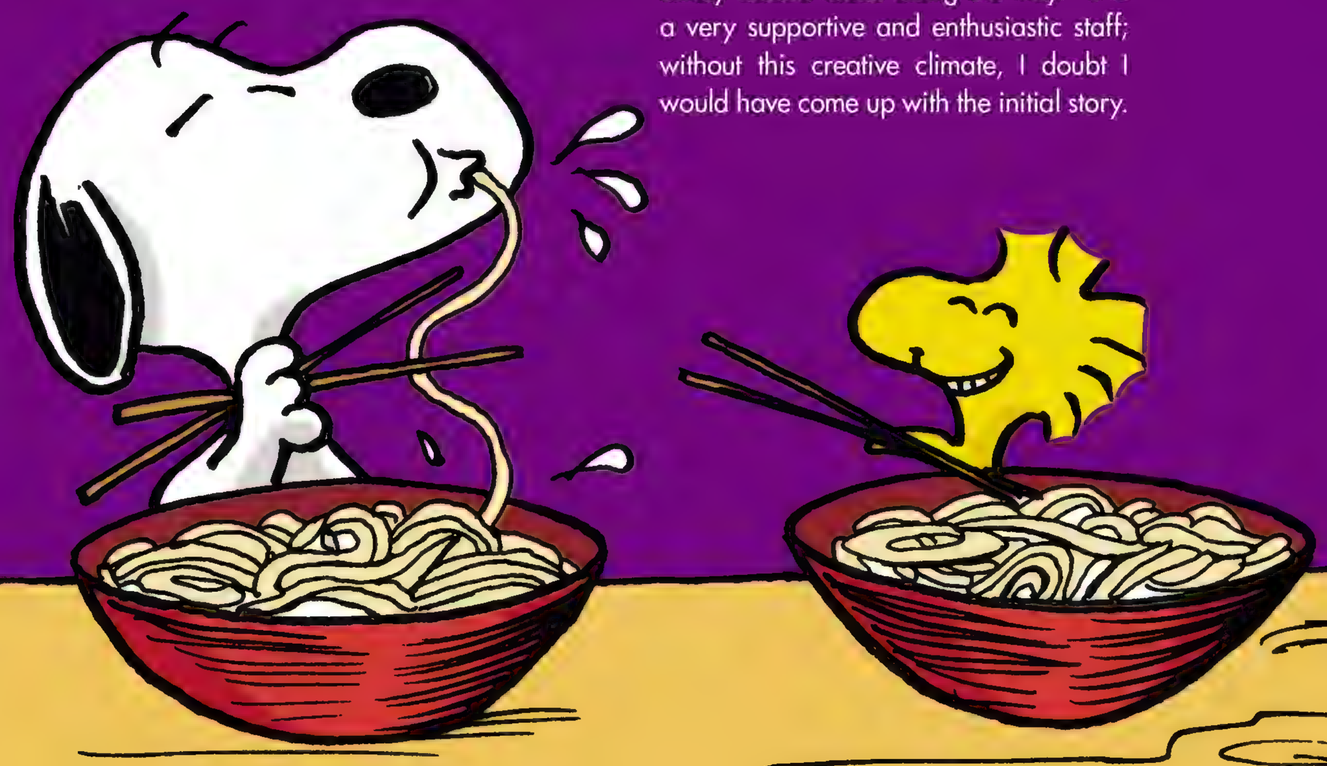
Photo by Evelyn Braddock

Writer and Penciller Vicki Scott (left) and inker Paige Braddock (right), pictured signing at the KaBOOM! booth at San Diego Comic Con 2012.

Where did the idea for "It's Tokyo, Charlie Brown" come from?

VS: Just after the graphic novel "Happiness is a Warm Blanket, Charlie Brown" came out, I heard that a publisher in Japan wanted to create stories that put the PEANUTS characters together with Japanese characters in original stories. Of course this was an impossible dream, as there are very clear PEANUTS rules to work within. For example, we can't invent new characters, we can't use adults, Charlie Brown can't kick the football...but I like puzzles and the idea for a new story stuck with me.

Then one day a couple of ideas crossed my mind at the same time, and suddenly I had the entire ending for the book! And the ending was exactly the device I needed to let me NOT break any of the rules. Once I got the story started, the rest of the staff here at the Schulz Studio kindly added ideas along the way. It is a very supportive and enthusiastic staff; without this creative climate, I doubt I would have come up with the initial story.



In the comic strip PEANUTS, the kids rarely ever traveled far from their neighborhood, were you worried about taking them all the way to Japan? Where did you look for inspiration and influence when crafting the story?

VS: The great thing about these characters is that whether they go across the street or around the world, they are still just themselves. Part of my aim was for the kids to interact freely with Japanese locations and experiences so I looked to the PEANUTS TV specials and movies for the way their adult-free world was presented. I tried to replace all the adults in Japan with Marcie's really good tour book!

The book is very well researched, have you been to Japan before? What kind of research did you do to make sure the locations and architecture had an authentic Japanese look & feel?

VS: I am a big fan of Japanese art and architecture (and food!). Travelling to Japan has been on my to-do list for years, but I have not been there yet. Fortunately, most of the staff here at studio has been to Tokyo, so they helped me with a lot of advice and fact-checking. Other than their stories and photos, I did my research online and with my own tour books of Japan. San Francisco's Japantown is one of my family's favorite spots as well!

Are particular PEANUTS characters or personalities that you enjoy writing and drawing more than others? What sequence did you have fun drawing the most?

VS: Gosh, I would be hard-pressed to pick a favorite character. I mostly enjoy writing conversations between them. That's when they are funniest. As far as which sequences I enjoyed drawing the most, I would have to say the two sequences where Snoopy and Woodstock dine out. It was fun to have poor little Woodstock valiantly battle his food.

How is a comic book page constructed and what tools do you use?

VS: For me, I still draw on Bristol board with pencil. And lots of erasers...so many erasers...

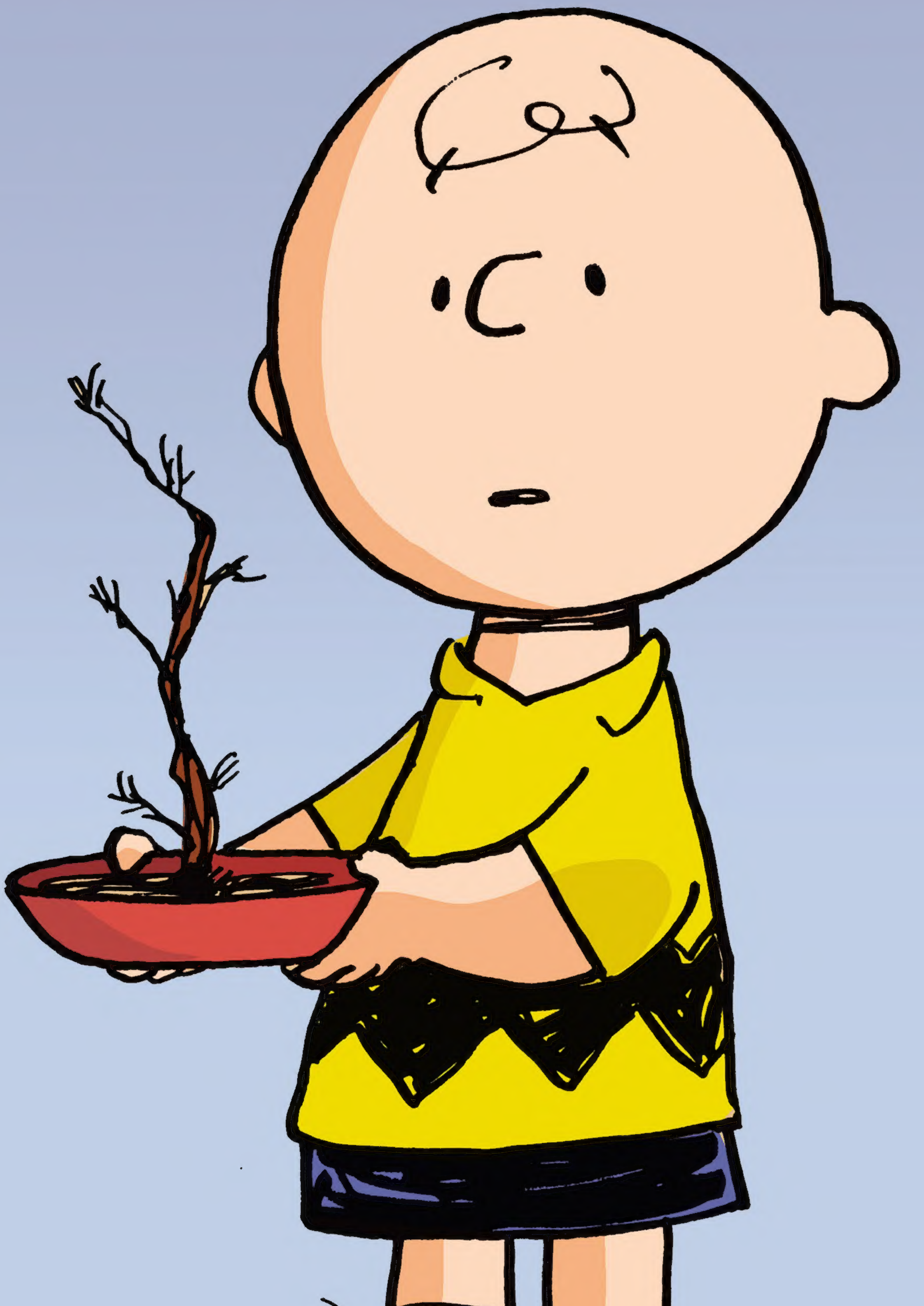
PB: Mr. Schulz used a very specific sort of pen to ink his comic strip-- an Esterbrook 914 radio pen. It was an old school quill pen. So it has a steel tip, called a nib, and you dip it into an ink bottle each time you want to ink a section of the artwork. The pen nib that Schulz used was discontinued a long time ago...like in the 70s and Schulz bought out their entire remaining stock. When I first started working with Schulz at the studio he gave me a box of these special pen tips and that's what I use for inking so that I can match his style.

Where do you plan on taking the PEANUTS characters next?

VS: After such a big trip, maybe they should stay closer to home for the next story. Possibly a summer camp story will be next! It's always fun to watch what happens at summer camp and how the kids all muddle through.



Charles M. Schulz once described himself as "born to draw comic strips." Born in Minneapolis, at just two days old, an uncle nicknamed him "Sparky" after the horse Spark Plug from the Barney Google comic strip, and throughout his youth, he and his father shared a Sunday morning ritual reading the funnies. After serving in the Army during World War II, Schulz's first big break came in 1947 when he sold a cartoon feature called "Li'l Folks" to the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. In 1950, Schulz met with United Feature Syndicate, and on October 2 of that year, PEANUTS, named by the syndicate, debuted in seven newspapers. Charles Schulz died in Santa Rosa, California, in February 2000—just hours before his last original strip was to appear in Sunday papers.



JAPAN FACTS

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"

